Graduate Attributes Policy

Policy Owner	CEO
Approving Authority	Governing Council
Implementation Responsibility	CEO
Effective Date	03/12/2025
Review Date	TBA
Current Status	Version 2.0

1. Purpose

This Policy articulates the set of graduate attributes that all Sydney Polytechnic Institute graduates are expected to achieve, forming a foundation for curriculum development, delivery, and assessment across all SPI programs.

2. Scope

This policy is applicable to all students who are studying, or who have studied, in any SPI course, and thus to the development, delivery and review of all SPI courses.

3. Definitions

Graduate Attributes (TEQSA definition) means the generic learning outcomes that SPI graduates may achieve, which includes the development of transferable and non-disciplinary specific skills that may be applied in different contexts.

Learning outcomes (TEQSA definition) means the statement of the set of knowledge, skills and abilities that the students of SPI should acquire and can demonstrate upon completion of learning.

Staff means all persons employed by SPI, including continuing, fixed-term and casual staff members.

4. Policy Statement

Graduate Attributes will inform SPI's commitment and approach to curriculum development and delivery, and student learning experience. Graduate Attributes are fundamental principles that underpin SPI's educational philosophy.

Graduate Attributes will be incorporated in SPI's course design process, and inform teaching and assessment. Graduate Attributes will be developed and practised across all courses, addressing the needs of students, employers, the professions, and the broader community.

SPI offers degree programs with a particular focus on graduates who are capable of contributing strongly to their employers right from graduation and are sought after by industry, whilst still responding strongly and pro-actively to the rapidly changing technological environment in which they work.

In line with this, SPI confirms the following **Graduate Attributes** that will be expected to underpin the design of all SPI degree programs:

1. **Industry-Ready and Employable**: SPI graduates possess the balance of professional skills and technical competence required to perform effectively in contemporary workplaces. They communicate clearly, collaborate productively, and apply their learning to deliver high-quality outcomes that meet employer and industry expectations.

2. **Adaptable and Future-Focused**: SPI graduates are self-directed and reflective learners who respond effectively to changing work environments. They pro-actively engage with emerging technologies and evolving professional practices, demonstrating agility, curiosity, and a commitment to lifelong learning and professional growth.

3. **Innovative and Impact-Driven**: SPI graduates think critically and creatively to identify problems, generate ideas, and implement solutions that deliver tangible value. They act ethically and responsibly, contributing to their organisations and communities through a focus on using technology to drive innovations that have a positive impact.

5. Responsibilities

1) The Governing Council is accountable for ensuring that the Graduate Attributes establish a proper tactical focus for all courses.
2) The Academic Board is accountable for ensuring the learning outcomes of all courses are in accordance with the Graduate Attributes.
3) All academic staff of SPI are expected to understand and participate in the continuing development of the Graduate Attributes.
4) All staff, particularly those involved with the Course marketing are expected to be familiar with the Graduate Attributes of SPI.

Notes

Related legislation:

Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) 2013.
Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021.

Related documents:

Course Development, Approval and Review Policy
Student Assessment Policy and Procedure

Amendment History:

Version No.	Approved by	Effective date	Amendments
1.0	Governing Council	27/08/2021	New Policy
1.1	Governing Council	05/12/2023	Revision to GA1 to remove AQF level specificity
1.2	Governing Council	25/09/2024	Revision to GA1 to refine the 'constructive change'
2.0	Governing Council	03/12/2025	Major revision to reflect evolution and diversification of SPI programs.