



Postgraduate Data Science Courses Admission Criteria¹

1.1 Graduate Certificate in Data Science

1.1.1 English language proficiency

a. English Language Skills Test

- IELTS Academic - A minimum result of 6.5 overall and a minimum result of 6.0 in each subtest; or
- PTE Academic - A minimum result of 58 overall and a minimum result of 50 in each subtest; or
- TOEFL IBT score - a minimum result of 79 overall including a minimum result of 21 in Writing, 13 in Reading, 12 in Listening and 18 in Speaking; or
- TOEFL PBT score - A minimum result of 550 overall including a minimum result of 4.5 in Writing; or
- Other English language tests recognised as equivalent to IELTS Academic of 6.5 overall as stated above.²

* *The results of the English Test must be valid and the test should have been taken no more than 3 years prior to the commencement of the program at SPI.*

- Completion of an equivalent ELICOS program with an approved Provider whose program aligns with the English Language Proficiency requirements.

b. Prior Study

The Applicant has completed a minimum of 2-years higher education studies from an English-speaking country and has completed it no more than two years prior to the commencement of the program at SPI:

- In one of the following English-speaking countries: American Samoa, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Canada, Fiji, Gibraltar, Ghana, Guyana, Ireland, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Tanzania, The Gambia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom (including Northern Ireland), United States of America, Zambia, Zimbabwe; or
- And you can provide a statement or certificate issued by the Registrar (or equivalent) that the sole language of the instruction and assessment for your qualification was English.

c. Assessment of English Proficiency

English proficiency may be approved if the Applicant has lived and/or worked in an English-speaking country (as listed above) continuously for at least two years prior to the commencement of the program at SPI. A work reference letter on company letterhead with a clear statement about the nature of the work undertaken, the period of employment and the contact details of the referee must be included.

¹ Note that meeting the admission criteria does not guarantee entry into a SPI program. A place may be offered after SPI has assessed availability of student places and the student's compliance with the [migration English language requirements for Subclass 500 student visa](#).

² Other recognised English language tests include Cambridge and the English Placement Test completed through an approved ELICOS Provider.



1.1.2 Education and other qualifications:

- Completion of an AQF Level 7 qualification such as an approved three-year undergraduate degree which includes some study areas requiring quantitative reasoning and analysis; or
- Three-year post-secondary higher education qualification (secondary higher education that is equivalent to completion of Australian Year 12), plus 2 years relevant work experience in Data Science or cognate roles; or
- Successful completion of SPI Postgraduate Qualifying Program (PQP); or
- Other qualifications with the combination of education and relevant work or other experience will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Relevance of Qualifications: *Qualifications presented for admission should have been obtained no more than 5 years prior to the commencement of the program at SPI. Applicants with qualifications older than 5 years are required to provide a statement, demonstrating any of the following:*

- *the continued relevance and applicability of the student's prior knowledge to the proposed study at SPI, or*
- *engagement in continuous learning, or professional development since obtaining the last qualification, or*
- *any relevant work experience related to the field of study.*

This course not only allows those with a related degree to undertake a specialised sequence of units to upskill or refresh their professional IT knowledge, but also serves as an excellent retraining opportunity if a student is a professional aiming to move into a new data science career.

1.2 Graduate Diploma of Data Science

1.2.1 English language proficiency

The same English Language requirements as the Graduate Certificate in Data Science.

1.2.2 Education and other qualifications:

- Completion of an AQF Level 7 qualification such as an approved three-year undergraduate degree which includes some study areas requiring quantitative reasoning and analysis; or
- Other qualifications with the combination of education and relevant work or other experience will be considered on a case-by-case basis; or
- Completion of the SPI Graduate Certificate in Data Science. Units completed in the Graduate Certificate can be credited to the Graduate Diploma.

The Relevance of Qualifications statement in the Graduate Certificate of Data Science applies to the Graduate Diploma in Data Science.

The Graduate Diploma is designed for students with little or no background in Data Science but wishing to attain a qualification in this area, or who have completed the Graduate Certificate in Data Science.



1.3 Master of Data Science

1.3.1 English language proficiency

The same English Language requirements as the Graduate Certificate in Data Science.

1.3.2 Education and other qualifications:

- Completion of an AQF Level 7 qualification such as an approved three-year undergraduate degree which includes some study areas requiring quantitative reasoning and analysis with a GPA of 4.5 or above; or
- Completion of the SPI Graduate Diploma of Data Science or Completion of the SPI Graduate Certificate in Data Science. Units completed in the Graduate Diploma / Graduate Certificate may be able to be credited to the Masters degree in accordance with the Academic Credit and Recognition of Prior Learning Policy.
- Other qualifications with the combination of education and relevant work or other experience will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- The Relevance of Qualifications statement in the Graduate Certificate of Data Science applies to the Master of Data Science.

The Masters degree is designed for not only those who have limited experiences and are seeking a qualification in Data Science, but also candidates who already have a sound data science background and wish to update and develop their knowledge and skills to keep pace with the rapid changes in technology and business.

1.3.3 Volume of Learning

Students admitted to a course will commence a course of study with a sufficient basis of prior knowledge and skills to achieve course learning outcomes and the learning outcomes for the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) qualification type and level in relation to the time available in the course.

In regard to admission criteria for the Master of Data Science (and in accordance with the AQF Volume of Learning for a Masters by Coursework), the volume of learning applicable to students applying for admission to a Masters by Coursework is typically 1-2 years with the following descriptors:

- 1.5 years following a level 7 qualification or 1 year following a level 8 qualification in the same or cognate discipline,
- 2 years following a level 7 qualification or 1.5 years following a level 8 qualification in a different discipline.

* Grade Point Average (GPA)

7 - HD	High Distinction	85-100
6 - D	Distinction	75-84
5 - CR	Credit	65-74
4 - P	Pass	50-64
0 - F	Fail	0-49

The grade for each unit is multiplied by the number of credit points of the unit to give a 'grade point'. The Course GPA is then the sum of grade points divided by the total credit points attempted.