

Academic Freedom Policy

Version	2.2
Approved by:	General Manager, Group Quality, Accreditation & Compliance
Date Approved:	16 Sep 2025
Implementation:	Academic Director
Maintenance Owner:	General Manager, Group Quality, Accreditation & Compliance



Contents

Section 1 – Overview 3

Purpose 3

Scope 3

Section 2 – Policy 3

Principles 3

Staff rights and responsibilities 4

Publication 4

Section 3 – Reference and Supporting Information 5

Section 4 – Change History 5



Section 1 – Overview

1. Purpose

The Academy of Interactive Technology (AIT) is committed to the protection and promotion of academic freedom and free intellectual inquiry within the Academy.

AIT will provide an environment that:

- i) Preserves, defends and promotes the principles of academic freedom for staff and students.
- ii) Encourages debate and expression of diverse opinions.
- iii) Protects the right of staff and students to exercise academic freedom of expression and not be disadvantaged or subject to less favorable treatment for doing so.

2. Scope

This policy applies to the operations of AIT in the VET and HE sectors.

Staff and students are expected to adhere to the provisions of relevant legislation and the policies and procedures of the Academy, the accepted ethical practices of the international higher education community and the standards of relevant academic research disciplines.

Free intellectual inquiry relies on a culture of scholarship undertaken without prejudice, with open-minded access and acknowledgement of the work of others, as the foundations for scholarships, learning and personal academic development.

Academy of Interactive Technology Pty Ltd (also trading as Coder Academy, Greenwich Higher Education, and ISCD) RTO: 90511, Registered Higher Education Provider. PRV12005, CRICOS: 02155J

Section 2 – Policy

1. Principles

Academic staff and students of AIT have the right to access information about free intellectual inquiry, and are encouraged to freely cooperate with other scholars, students and teaching staff to reciprocally exchange information and ideas for significant advancements and create innovations and solutions to problems unimpeded by preconceived notions of outcomes by other staff or industry representatives.

All discourse in pursuit of free intellectual inquiry should be undertaken reasonably and in good faith.

Academic freedom and free intellectual inquiry at AIT are predicated on the following principles:

- i) Its courses are rigorous and challenging, taught by a faculty of industry-active professionals;
- ii) Its courses are delivered in a way that engages with advanced knowledge and inquiry, student- focused, informed by research, and which promotes intellectual enquiry, critical thinking and creative reasoning;
- iii) The learning environment fosters a culture of scholarship and critical reflection in an intellectual milieu of creativity and innovation;
- iv) The learning environment endeavors to support a culture of open-minded scholarship and to embed such personal scholastic development as part of its learning and teaching activities.

AIT aims to produce graduates who will contribute to an equitable and civilised society through



their engagement in public-spirited programs, their embrace of the exciting pulse of the creative industries and their experimentation with new materials and sustainable technologies.

To safeguard academic freedom for both staff and students, AIT establishes a formal mechanism through which concerns regarding infringements on academic freedom can be reported. Any individual who believes their rights to free intellectual inquiry have been compromised may submit a complaint via the AIT Academic Grievance, Complaints, and Appeals Policy.

2. Staff rights and responsibilities

The right to academic freedom and free intellectual inquiry comes with responsibilities. All academic staff must therefore ensure that they approach all issues in a balanced, open, fair and academically rigorous manner.

As scholars, academic staff must remember that their special position in the community imposes specific obligations. They should note that the public may judge their profession and their institution by their statements. Accordingly, they should at all times be accurate, exercise appropriate restraint and show respect for the opinions of others.

The right to free intellectual inquiry and academic freedom does not extend to staff expressing views on topics other than those within their sphere of expertise and identifying themselves as being staff members of the Institute. Accordingly, staff members should refrain from speaking, writing or otherwise communicating on matters not within the province of their academic expertise.

Publication

This procedure is published on the web sites of AIT to ensure students have up-to-date and accurate information publicly available to them.



Section 3 – Reference and Supporting Information

Document name	Document type	Location
National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018	Regulatory Standards	External
Higher Education Standards Framework 2021 Standard 6.1.4	Regulatory Standards	External
ASQA Standards for RTO's 2015	Regulatory Standards	External
Privacy Act 1988	Govt Standards	External

Section 4 – Change History

Version	Approval date	Department	Approved by	Change
V1.0	27 February 2015	Academic	Dean	Development of Group Policy replacing existing entity level policies
		Technology & Design Division	General Manager	
V1.1	09 September 2019	Group Accreditation & Compliance	Compliance Manager	Update to new template
		Technology & Design Division	General Manager	
V2.0	16 March 2023	Group Accreditation & Compliance	Executive General Manager, Group Quality, Accreditation & Compliance	AIT name update and new template
		Technology & Design Division	General Manager	
V2.1	18 Sep 2024	Group Accreditation & Compliance	Executive General Manager, Group Quality,	Formatting update. Additional section on formal appeal process.



			Accreditation & Compliance	
		Technology & Design Division	General Manager	
V2.2	16 Sep 2025	Group Accreditation & Compliance	General Manager, Group Quality, Accreditation & Compliance	Update to include reference to 'Greenwich Higher Education'
		Technology & Design Division	General Manager	

