

Dilini Kannangara

Country: Sri Lanka

Course: Certificate 4 in Commercial Cookery

Institute: TAFE NSW – Northern Sydney Institute, Ryde College



In 2009, Dilini Kannangara, embarked on a new phase of her career with two things in her favour: as a TAFE NSW graduate she had a new Certificate 4 in Commercial Cookery qualification at distinction level and an award for Most Outstanding Student in Commercial Cookery at the renowned TAFE NSW – Northern Sydney Institute, Ryde College.

And Dilini, an international student from Sri Lanka, had a renewed confidence that her learning experience at TAFE NSW would be a catalyst to find a job and map out a career.

“I have had practical exposure to the workforce and gained knowledge from my teacher’s expertise – these things will be of immense help when working in a commercial kitchen.”

“Coming from Sri Lanka, you don’t get this type of practical hands on training, nor do you get the level of teaching experience – teachers were so patient and amazing and provided us with the confidence and direction to embark on any career we chose to follow. I was very lucky to have studied at Ryde College.”

Dilini made many friends from different nationalities at TAFE NSW and discovered so much about different types of cooking and cultures.

TAFE NSW – Northern Sydney Institute also offers hospitality courses at Crows Nest, Meadowbank and Northern Beaches Colleges. Many diploma courses also enable students to apply for credit transfer to specific university programs.

Ryde College is also home to the unique, Sydney Coffee Academy, Sydney Wine Academy and the world famous, Le Cordon Bleu, Sydney Culinary Arts Institute.

According to Elizabeth Smith, College Director at Ryde College, TAFE NSW – Northern Sydney Institute international students take with them skills, experience and a broad range of career path options.

“The award for Most Outstanding Student is a result of hard work and dedication. Our international student graduates tell us that they leave Ryde College with nationally recognised qualifications, and established friendships, a professional network and happy memories of their study experience to last a lifetime.”