

## BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE

SECTION A: QUALIFICATION DETAILS											
<b>QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER (S)</b>	BA ISAGO University										
<b>TITLE</b>	Master of Commerce in Economics						<b>NCQF LEVEL</b>	9			
<b>STRANDS (where applicable)</b>	N/A										
<b>FIELD</b>	Humanities and Social Sciences						<b>CREDIT VALUE</b>	240			
<b>SUB FIELD</b>	Social and Behavioural Sciences										
New Qualification	Legacy Qualification		Renewal Qualification		✓						
Registration Code		0066									
<b>SUB-FRAMEWORK</b>	General Education			TVET			Higher Education			✓	
<b>QUALIFICATION TYPE</b>	Certificate	I	II	III	IV	V	Diploma	Bachelor			
Bachelor Honours		Post Graduate Certificate			Post Graduate Diploma						
Masters						✓	Doctorate/ PhD				
RATIONALE AND PURPOSE OF THE QUALIFICATION											
<p><b>RATIONALE:</b></p> <p>Economics is vital to a changing modern life as it seeks to understand, assess, and explain the mechanisms of markets and national economies. This importance of Economics to the Botswana Economy is as espoused in the National Development Plan (NDP 11) and the Vision 2036. Botswana through Vision 2036 aims at achieving the pillars of Sustainable Economic Development and Human and Social Development. The two pillars emphasise transformation to a knowledge-based economy</p>											

that would enable citizens to globally compete in driving economic growth and diversification. There is need to therefore, develop skills, competencies and experts who will drive this transformation.

In the context of a rapidly evolving global landscape, the Master of Commerce in Economics emerges as a strategic response to the multifaceted demands and imperatives shaping contemporary economic thought and practice. The Human Resource Development Council Report (HRDC, 2023/2024) identified Research & Development Managers, Statisticians, Mathematicians and Mineral Economists as top priority areas with skills gap that needed to be addressed in the country.

The BA ISAGO Needs Assessment Report (2024) also identified the need for the post graduate qualification in Economics to close the gaps in the labour market. The first cohort for BA ISAGO University is still pursuing the qualification and therefore have not yet done the employer satisfaction survey to assess the actual impact of the qualification in the market

### **PURPOSE: (itemise exit level outcomes)**

The purpose of this qualification is to produce graduates with advanced knowledge, skills, and competence to:

1. Design, assess, and implement economic policies that address complex socio-economic challenges.
2. Formulate and communicate economic strategies and development plans, to promote sustainable economic growth and address sector-specific or national economic issues
3. Apply quantitative and qualitative techniques to collect, analyze, and interpret economic data, enabling evidence-based decision-making in diverse professional and research contexts

### **MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)**

Entry to this qualification is through any of the following:

- i. Applicants must hold a minimum of bachelor's degree, NCQF Level 7 or equivalent.

OR

- ii. Candidates who do not meet the minimum academic qualifications stated above will be considered through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) process which shall be administered according to the National RPL Policy. There will also be provision for Credit Accumulation

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Transfer to the learner in a case they are transfer in from another institution as per National Policy on CAT.

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<b>SECTION B QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION</b>	
<b>GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)</b>	<b>ASSESSMENT CRITERIA</b>
<p>1. Develop microeconomic policies for planning and decision-making.</p>	<p>1.1 Apply advanced economic theories in the assessment of policies procedures, operations, and techniques in the real-world scenarios.</p> <p>1.2 Craft strategies for economic growth, sustainability, and equitable resource distribution.</p> <p>1.3 Critically analyse the strategic behaviour of rational decision-makers using game theory in various interactions.</p> <p>1.4 Evaluate complex economic problems and develop evidence-based solutions</p> <p>1.5 Evaluate complex economic problems such as market failures, fiscal policies, or trade regulations and develop evidence-based solutions.</p>
<p>2. Apply advanced statistical and econometric techniques to analyse economic data.</p>	<p>2.1 Apply advanced analytical methods and econometric representation of economic ideas and analysis.</p> <p>2.2 Identify relevant econometric models to conduct the necessary diagnostic and specification tests.</p> <p>2.3 Evaluate empirical investigations using econometrics and other statistical estimations and inferences.</p>

	<p>2.4 Establish various regression models, their underlying assumptions, and the consequences of violating them.</p> <p>2.5 Forecast consumer and producer behavior in response to shifts in market dynamics and economic policies.</p> <p>2.6 Advise businesses and organizations on market analysis, pricing strategies, and economic forecasting.</p>
<p>3. Advise businesses and organizations on market analysis, pricing strategies, and economic forecasting.</p>	<p>3.1 Formulate strategies for sustainable competitive advantage under different market structures.</p> <p>3.2 Forecast consumer and producer behavior in response to shifts in market dynamics and economic policies.</p> <p>3.3 Demonstrate advanced knowledge of global economic trends, international trade, and the effects of globalization on economies.</p>
<p>4. Conduct specialised research to drive professional development in the field of Economics.</p>	<p>4.1 Conduct thorough literature review to understand existing research to identify research problems that need further investigation in the Economics area.</p> <p>4.2 Select appropriate research methodologies for different research studies.</p> <p>4.3 Apply statistical and/or statistical modelling software for data analysis and interpretation of results.</p> <p>4.4 Use the research findings to draw realistic inferences and conclusions to improve service delivery.</p> <p>4.5 Apply CGE modelling to inform policy debates regarding questions related to economic issues</p>

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SECTION C	QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE				
COMPONENT	TITLE	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total Credits
		Level [ ]	Level [ ]	Level [9]	
<b>FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT</b> Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units	Research Methods in Economics			25	25
<b>CORE COMPONENT</b> Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units	Advanced Microeconomics			15	15
	Advanced Macroeconomics			15	15
	Advanced Mathematical Economics			15	15
	Economic Modelling & Policy Analysis			15	15
	Financial Economics			15	15
	Advanced Econometrics			15	15
	Dissertation			80	80
STRANDS/ SPECIALIZATION	Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total Credits
		Level [ ]	Level [ ]	Level [9]	

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1.					
2.					
<b>Electives</b>	<b>Set 1 (Choose 1)</b>				
	Labour Economics			15	15
	Public Finance & Debt Management			15	15
	International Trade			15	15
	Economic Impact Assessment			15	15
	<b>Set 2 (Choose 1)</b>				
	Agricultural Economics			15	15
	Natural Resource and Environmental Economics			15	15
	Energy Economics			15	15
	Mineral Economics			15	15
	Economics of Technology and Innovation			15	15
	<b>Set 3 (Choose 1)</b>				
	Financial Econometrics			15	15
	Managerial Economics			15	15
	Advanced Monetary Economics			15	15

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### SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL

#### TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL

NCQF Level	Credit Value
9	240
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>240</b>

**Rules of Combination:**

**(Please Indicate combinations for the different constituent components of the qualification)**

The credit distribution is made up of 25 credits from the fundamental component, 170 credits from the core component and 45 credits from the elective component, where students will choose only one (1) elective module per set.

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### ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

**i. Formative Assessment**

The weighting of formative assessment is 60 % of the final assessment mark.

**ii. Summative Assessment**

The weighting of summative assessment is 40 % of the final assessment mark.

### MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS

There will be provision for internal and external moderation, conducted by Moderators with a relevant qualification at NCQF Level 10.

### RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) will be applicable for consideration for award in this qualification.

### CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER

Credit Accumulation Transfer (CAT) will be applicable for consideration for award in this qualification

### PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)

**Learning Pathways:**

**Horizontal Articulation**

- Certified Financial Analyst (CFA)
- Masters in Investment Analysis
- Masters in Agriculture Economics
- Masters in Development Economics
- Masters in Environmental Economics

**Vertical Articulation**

- Doctor of Philosophy in Economics
- Doctor of Economics
- Executive PhD
- Doctor of Philosophy in Economics and Finance
- Doctor of Philosophy in Business and Socioeconomic Sciences

### Employment Pathways

- Financial Economist
- Monetary Economist
- International Trade specialist
- Researcher
- Market Analyst
- Budget Analyst
- Investment Analyst
- Economics Advisor

### QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION

To be eligible for the award of the Master of Commerce in Economics, candidates should have obtained a minimum of 240 credits. A certificate will be issued to learners who are awarded the qualification.

### SUMMARY OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

This qualification compares with the following:

- Master of Commerce in Economics - University of Cape Town, South Africa.
- Master of Science in Economics - University of Manchester, United Kingdom.
- Masters in Economics - University of Barcelona, Spain.

The benchmarking exercises revealed that the Master of Commerce in Economics favourably compares to other regional and international qualifications. All the qualifications are pitched at Level 9, which is denoted using the specific framework adopted by each country (NCQF, NQF, FHEQ & MECES). Furthermore, the proposed qualification shares a common title with University of Cape Town qualification. However, there is a slight difference in relation to the designators adopted by University of Manchester and University of Barcelona qualifications, which are Master of Science and Masters, respectively.

The qualifications also have a common goal in terms of capacitating graduates with knowledge, skills, competencies and appropriate attitudes to solve real world economic problems using relevant theories and principles and also conduct independent research to contribute to the body of economic knowledge.

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All qualifications structures cover common domains such as Financial Economics, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Labour Economics, Mathematics and Dissertation. The assessment strategies for all qualifications include both continual formative assessment and summative assessment in the form of assignments, projects, tests and examinations to assess the achievement of the stated learning outcomes. To qualify for the award of all the qualifications, learners must achieve the required minimum credits and successfully pass their dissertation.

Based on the qualification frameworks used by each country, there are some differences in terms of credits and duration of study. Like University of Cape Town, the proposed qualification carries 240 credits although the proposed has a duration of 2 years while the University of Cape Town qualification has 1 year duration. Whereas the qualifications offered by University of Manchester and University of Barcelona 120 credits each, with duration of 1 year and 2 years respectively.

In terms of articulation, all the qualifications have common education and employment progression pathways. Just like the qualifications offered by other universities, the proposed Master of Commerce in Economics prepares and allows learners to progress and pursue doctoral degrees in Economics or on any other related field. In addition, all qualifications prepare learners for employment in public and private sector as Researchers, Market Analysts, Financial Economists and Policy Analysts.

### REVIEW PERIOD

This qualification will be reviewed after 5 years upon registration.

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### For Official Use Only:

CODE (ID)			
REGISTRATION STATUS	BQA DECISION NO.	REGISTRATION START DATE	REGISTRATION END DATE
LAST DATE FOR ENROLMENT		LAST DATE FOR ACHIEVEMENT	