

	BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE	Document No.	DNCQF.QIDD.GD02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	04/02/2020

SECTION A: QUALIFICATION DETAILS													
QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER (S)		University of Botswana											
TITLE	Doctor of Philosophy (African Languages and Literature)										NCQF LEVEL	10	
FIELD	Humanities and Social Sciences			SUB-FIELD		African Languages and Literature				CREDIT VALUE	360		
New Qualification						√		Review of Existing Qualification					
SUB-FRAMEWORK		General Education					TVET					Higher Education	√
QUALIFICATION TYPE	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>RATIONALE:</p> <p>In pursuit of a purposeful, workplace-relevant, and high-quality qualification, the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree in African Languages and Literature qualification is motivated by the aims of the National Cultural Policy (2001) and Vision (2036) which emphasize that Botswana is a multilingual and multicultural country which should use this diversity as a key to its unity and development. This qualification is also informed by the Revised National Policy on Education (RNPE, 1994) document which reiterates the promotion and extensive use of Setswana as the country's national language. Hence, this qualification is based on a number of crucial factors, including language proficiency and competence in work-places, the centrality of language and culture in the African Union's Development Agenda (2063), the international trends in the provision of quality education and the creation of new job opportunities for our graduates. The qualification also acknowledges that language and culture, as features of people's identity and self-esteem, should be key strategic areas for imparting critical knowledge, skills and competencies (<i>National Human Resources Development Strategy, 2009-2022</i>).</p>													

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Moreover, as a qualification, it is inspired by two documents, which are principal drivers of education in Botswana, namely the *National Credit and Qualifications Framework (NCQF)* (Republic of Botswana, 2015) and the UNESCO's (2013), *Global Action Program on Education for Sustainable Development*. Both documents agree on the need for reorienting education and learning, so that learners acquire high level knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes that enable them to contribute to sustainable development. Following the above policies, the Department of African Languages and Literature has revised its Qualification to be in compliance with Outcome Based Education (OBE). Moreover, as Botswana enters the Knowledge Economy era, there is need to have many PhD graduates who will be the professional leaders and pillars in the production of this Knowledge.

PURPOSE:

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

- Initiate projects in description and documentation of African languages and literature.
- Teach theoretical and practical aspects of African language and literature.
- Produce materials in technical and creative writing.
- Undertake advanced research in African languages and literature.

• ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)

Entry requirements for Doctor of Philosophy (African Languages and Literature) qualification are as follows:

- NCQF Level 9 or equivalent qualification.
- Entry through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) in line with institutional and national policies.

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SECTION B		QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION	
GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)		ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	
1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of linguistic, literary, and cultural principles and practices.		1.1 analyse African language systems literary creations and cultures. 1.2 determine African language and cultural origins. 1.3 assess the place and role of African languages, literary creations, and cultures in society.	
2. Carry out research in the field of African languages and literature.		2.1 prepare a relevant and feasible research proposal. 2.2 design a workable research plan to elicit the relevant data. 2.3 conduct a comprehensive research project. 2.4 use a solid theoretical framework to analyse, interpret and make an objective and scholarly conclusion of an academic undertaking. 2.5 write resourceful and scholarly reports on research findings. 2.6 apply the research findings to resolve societal problems. 2.7 present findings in seminars and conferences for wider circulation. 2.8 prepare scholarly papers to be published in international journals and books.	
3 Lead a professional activity or project in a related field.		3.1 direct and plan an assignment. 3.2 execute and deliver an assignment. 3.2 assess and adapt programmes to align with the level and needs of the consumers.	
4 Display professional integrity at workplace; and mediate in workplace problems:		4.1 work harmoniously and responsibly in teams when tackling work problems.	

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	4.2 collaborate with graduates from different disciplines in coming up with complementary results supporting each other in surmounting challenges.
5 Apply ICT in information retrieval and processing.	5.1 use ICT responsibly and ethically. 5.2 communicate and collaborate locally and globally using ICT. 5.3 research, access and retrieve information using ICT. 5.4 organize and synthesize information using ICT. 5.5 implement data loss prevention strategies using ICT. 5.6 present information in a variety of formats using ICT.
6 Engage in continuous professional development (CPD) activities to enhance own performance and practice.	6.1 examine job areas of interest to identify requisite knowledge and skills. 6.2 identify own learning needs in relation to a competency framework for a particular job area of interest. 6.3 develop a personal professional development plan (PDP). 6.4 identify accredited education and training providers to be considered in relation to own PDP. 6.5 evaluate own actions or performance and make judgements about what to do to improve. 6.6 initiate ideas or seek support to improve performance.

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SECTION C	QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE				
COMPONENT	TITLE	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total (Per Subject/ Course/ Module/ Units)
		Level []	Level []	Level []	
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT <i>Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units</i>	• Research Proposal	10			120
CORE COMPONENT <i>Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units</i>	• PhD thesis	10			240
ELECTIVE/ OPTIONAL COMPONENT <i>Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units</i>	• No Elective				

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SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL	
TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL	
NCQF Level	Credit Value
10	120
10	240
TOTAL CREDITS	360
Rules of Combination: (Please Indicate combinations for the different constituent components of the qualification)	
Qualification Rules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To complete this qualification, a Learner shall take 360 credits • Each Learner shall take 1 fundamental course, which is a research proposal (120 credits) • Each Learner shall take 1 core course, which is a thesis (240 credits) 	

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ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Assessment

- **Formative Assessment**

Formative assessment will constitute 40% of the final mark.

- **Summative assessment**

Summative assessment will constitute 60% of the final mark.

MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS

The qualification shall have two types of moderation, namely Internal Moderation and External Moderation, in accordance with applicable institutional and national policies and regulations. Assessors and moderators shall be registered and accredited by BQA.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for the award of this qualification will be in line with the Institutional and National policies.

CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER

Credit Accumulation Transfer (CAT) for the award of this qualification will be in line with the Institutional and National policies.

PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)

- **Horizontal Articulation** (related qualifications of similar level that graduates may consider)

At the horizontal level, Learners doing Doctor of Philosophy (African Languages and Literature) qualification will have the following education pathways:

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- PhD (Social Sciences)
- PhD Media Studies
- PhD in Pastoral Studies
- PhD degree in a professional field, such as Information Systems, Environmental Science, etc.

(Possible jobs or employments which the holder of this qualification may take up)

Graduates with PhD in African Languages and Literature qualification will qualify to work in the following capacities:

- Publishers and editors (self-employment)
- Setswana teachers in Colleges of Education
- Public Relations Officers
- Office Administrators
- Researchers in African languages, literatures, and cultures
- Creative writers
- Tourism Planning Officers
- Cultural Officers
- Language and culture experts
- Human Resources Officers
- Motivational Speakers
- Heritage officers
- Teaching of African languages, literatures, and cultures
- Any other related employment

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QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION

To be awarded a Doctor of Philosophy (African Languages and Literature), a Learner must satisfy the appropriate provisions of the relevant General Academic Regulations of the University. According to the University requirements, a student must have passed both the thesis and Oral Examination. The Learner is expected to have a total of 360 credits.

- **Certification**

- Learners meeting the prescribed requirements will be awarded the qualification in accordance with the standards prescribed for the award of the certificate
- The Degree shall be known as ***Doctor of Philosophy (African Languages and Literature)***.

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

Comparability with International Universities

To ensure quality and high standard, the qualification was benchmarked with world-class international institutions of higher learning, namely:

- The University of Wisconsin-Madison (US) <https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/african-cultural-studies/african-cultural-studies-phd/>
- The University of Bayreuth (German) http://www.bigsas.uni-bayreuth.de/en/phd_programme/index.html. The results were as follows:

Similarities

Some of the similarities observed between the PhD degree qualification offered by University of Wisconsin-Madison and the PhD degree in African languages and Literature qualification are as follows:

- The PhD degree qualifications have the same main graduate exit level outcomes
- The PhD degree qualifications have similar assessment strategies, including presentations, written and oral examination (defence of completed dissertation).

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Some of the similarities observed between the PhD degree qualification offered by the University of Bayreuth and the PhD degree in African languages and Literature qualification are as follows:

- The PhD degree qualifications require a minimum duration of three (3) years to complete,
- The PhD degree qualifications have similar assessment strategies, including an oral examination of the thesis.

Differences

Some of the differences observed between the PhD degree qualification offered by the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the PhD degree in African languages and Literature qualification are as follows:

- The PhD degree in African Cultural Studies qualification offered by the University of Wisconsin-Madison requires a minimum duration of four (4) years whereas the PhD degree in African Languages and Literature qualification requires a minimum duration of three (3) years
- The University of Wisconsin-Madison PhD degree in African Cultural Studies programme requires a total of 96 credits, out of which 45 credits are graduate residence credits, whereas the PhD degree in African Languages and Literature qualification requires a total of 360 credits.
- The PhD degree qualification at the University of Wisconsin-Madison offers two employment pathways: research in African expressive cultures and teaching of African languages whereas the PhD degree in African languages and Literature qualification offers well over ten, including research in and teaching of African languages and cultures.

Some of the differences observed between the PhD degree qualification offered by the University of Bayreuth and the PhD degree in African Languages and Literature qualification are as follows:

- The University of Bayreuth PhD degree qualification in African Verbal and Visual Arts requires participation in a summer school or comparable academic event at Bayreuth, participation in a work group and attainment of overall thesis grade ranked at satisfactory (2.5) whereas the PhD degree in African Languages and Literature qualification does not require such
- The PhD degree in African Languages and Literature qualification offers more elaborately defined employment pathways than the one at the University of Bayreuth
- The PhD degree in African Languages and Literature qualification offers more graduate exit level outcomes than the MA degree qualification at the University of Bayreuth.

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The Position of PhD degree in African Languages and Literature Qualification

Although, the information obtained from the two international universities, namely University of Wisconsin-Madison (USA) and University of Bayreuth (Germany), is somewhat limited, it is clear that the PhD degree in African Languages and Literature qualification is very promising and resourceful in the following ways:

- It is much more extensive in that it offers a wider range of exit-level outcomes and sub-outcomes
- It has more graduate pathways and therefore gives graduates more opportunities in the employment market
- Students are more subject focused and exposed to more working hours and therefore end up having more credits
- The qualification is offered in an academic environment which has easy access to information and data on the languages, literatures, and cultures of Africa.
- The assessment strategies in the PhD in African Languages and Literature qualification are much wider, as, apart from the rigorous and close supervision, the students are expected to discuss their literature review, research proposals, chapters as well make presentations and consultations. etc.

Comparability with Regional Universities

Three (3) universities in the region were selected in order to compare their qualification structure with the PhD degree in African Languages and Literature and to learn from them. The selected Universities were:

- Makerere University <http://www.mak.ac.ug/academic-programmes/postgraduate>, (Uganda)
- University of Nairobi <https://arts.uonbi.ac.ke/index.php/phd>, (Kenya)
- Stellenbosch University <http://www.sun.ac.za/english/faculty/arts/graduate-school/programmes-and-research/doctoral-phd-programmes>. South Africa

Although the information obtained is scanty, the main findings could be summarized as follows:

Similarities

- Both the PhD degree in African Languages and Literature qualification and the one offered by the three regional universities have supervised PhD degree qualifications.
- Both PhD degree in African Languages and Literature qualification and the one offered by the three regional universities have rigorous supervision processes.

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Differences

- The three regional universities offer PhD in African languages, literary expression, and culture. However, compared with these Universities, the PhD degree in African Languages and Literature qualification is much more extensive, offering a wider range of exit-outcomes, hence giving the graduate many pathways to allow him/her to get employment in a number of places.
- The PhD degree qualifications in these regional universities tend to focus on theoretical linguistics, narrow sociolinguistics, and some aspects of African literature. The PhD degree in African Languages and Literature qualification has, not only more applied courses, but also more skills based and entrepreneurial oriented courses.
- The mode of assessment in the PhD degree in African Languages and Literature qualification is more thorough than the one in the three Universities, because it involves many parameters.

The Position of PhD degree in African Languages and Literature Qualification

The reasons given above buttress the claim that the PhD degree in African Languages and Literature qualification is more rigorous, broader and effective, in the light of the fact that it imparts knowledge, skills and competencies, which are most critical for our graduates, who require excellent communicative skills, interactive competence, problem solving skills, translation and interpretation skills, editorial and creative competence as well as entrepreneurial skills to be able to deal with the public and be independent minded at the place of work.

REVIEW PERIOD

This Qualification shall normally be reviewed after every **5** years. A special review may be carried out if special circumstances occur, such as change of policies or new type of courses to meet new demands.

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