
	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 in Library and Information Studies										NCQF LEVEL		1 0	
FIELD	Humanities and Social Sciences			SUB-FIELD			Library & Information Studies			CREDIT VALUE		3 6 0		
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: The Professional Doctor of Philosophy in Library and Information Studies is a practitioner-focused doctoral degree. It has been designed for experienced professionals working in an information or knowledge management environment. This qualification is an attractive option for those seeking to make an original contribution to professional practice. It prepares one to take the next step in professional development, leadership, change and innovation in the Library and Information Science sector.</p>														

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The qualification is motivated by many factors including: HRDC (2016) reports on labour-market needs in Botswana and Priority Skills and Occupations in demand, which requested for researchers that holders of this qualification are being trained for. Other motivating factors include the international trends in the education and training of information professionals, government of Botswana national priorities (i.e. HRDC Strategy for developing critical skills for the economy including information and knowledge managers needed in transforming Botswana into a knowledge-based economy as espoused in the National Human Resource Development Strategy 2009-2022, the Botswana Education and Training Sector Strategic Plan 2015 – 2020, Maitlamo, and Vision 2036).


PURPOSE: The purpose of this qualification is to produce library and information specialists and researchers in the library and information environment. Graduates of this qualification should be able to:

- Initiate and conduct an independent original research of international standard that will result in novel findings or innovative solutions to problem on Library and Information Studies.
- Develop and implement the most advanced strategy for dissemination of research findings and outputs in an appropriate scholarly way.


ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)

The entrance requirements for Doctor of Philosophy in Library and Information Studies include


1. NCQF Level 9 or equivalent in any field from any recognized institution.
2. Applicants who do not meet the requirements above may be considered through Recognition of Prior Learning, RPL and Credit Accumulation and Transfer, CAT, in accordance with ETP and national policies on RPL and CAT for access and inclusion.

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SECTION B		QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION	
GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)		ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	
1.1 Demonstrate most advanced and comprehensive mastery of a body of knowledge in the area of focus.		1.1.1	Define explicitly contribution to the body of knowledge and explain research methods of a defined scholarly field and its relation to the interdisciplinary study of library and information studies.
		1.1.2	Carry out an in-depth assessment of knowledge using extant literature in the focal area of the thesis along with an assessment of a broader range of overlapping intellectual spaces.
		1.1.3	Apply most advanced analytical skills and command of a breadth of knowledge to other disciplinary areas.
1.2 Demonstrate most advanced expertise in research design, data collection and data analysis methods and participate in academic life by contributing to knowledge.		1.2.1	Plan, design, execute, and report a scholarly research project.
		1.2.2	Participate and contribute to academic life as a researcher.
1.3 Demonstrate the highest level of professionalism and ethical standards in all areas of operation.		1.3.1	exercise professional norms, practices, and ethical standards of a defined scholarly field.
		1.3.2	Apply professional standards in information management practice

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SECTION C	QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE				
COMPONENT	TITLE <i>PhD, Library and Information Studies</i>	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total <i>(Per Subject/ Course/ Module/ Units)</i>
		Level [10]	Level []	Level []	
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT <i>Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units</i>	Seminar/Term Paper	10			45
	Dissertation proposal	10			45
CORE COMPONENT <i>Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units</i>	Research and Thesis in Library and Information Studies	10			270
ELECTIVE/ OPTIONAL COMPONENT <i>Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units</i>	N/A				

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SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL	
TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL	
NCQF Level	Credit Value
10	360
TOTAL CREDITS	360
Rules of Combination: (Please Indicate combinations for the different constituent components of the qualification)	
Fundamental Component = 90 credits. Core Component = 270 credits. Total = 360 credits.	

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ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

All assessments, formative and summative, contributing to the award of credits or qualification should be based on learning outcomes and/or sub-outcomes.

Formative assessment shall contribute 55% towards the final grade.

Summative assessment shall contribute 45% towards the final grade.

MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS

There will be both internal and external moderation as a quality assurance measure. The moderation processes shall be carried out by moderators who are registered and accredited by Botswana Qualifications Authority or any internationally recognised and relevant body.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

There will be provision for awarding Doctor of Philosophy in Library and Information Studies through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) in accordance with institutional and national policies on RPL.

CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER

There will be provision for awarding Doctor of Philosophy in Library and Information Studies through Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) in accordance with institutional and national policies on CAT.


PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)

LEARNING

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

Graduates of this qualification may consider pursuing related qualifications at NCQF Level 10 such as

- Doctor of Philosophy in Information Management,
- Doctor of Philosophy in Information Technology,
- Doctor of Philosophy in Health Informatics, and
- Doctor of Philosophy in Information and Knowledge Management.

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Vertical Articulation: Graduates may progress to post-doctoral qualifications such as:

- Post-doctoral, Information Management
- Post-doctoral, Information Technology and
- Post-doctoral, Health Informatics

EMPLOYMENT

Some of the pathways that graduates may pursue include:


- Academic Librarian
- Archivist in Special Collections Records Manager
- Data Curator
- Data Scientist
- Database Administrator/Developer
- Information Architect
- Digital Librarian
- Health Information Scientist
- Knowledge Librarian
- Law Librarian
- Public Librarian
- Special/Corporate Librarian

QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION

For a learner to be *awarded* Doctor of Philosophy in Library and Information Studies, they must attain a minimum of 360 credits, including successful defence of the thesis.

Certification

Candidates who meet the prescribed requirements will be issued with a certificate of Doctor of Philosophy in Library and Information Studies

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REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

The proposed Doctor of Philosophy in Library and Information Studies has been benchmarked with similar qualifications regionally and internationally, which are:

- Doctor of Philosophy Library and Information Science (University of Cape Town, South Africa),
- Doctor of Philosophy Library and Information Science (School of Information Science University of Norway)
- Doctor of Philosophy Information Studies/ Information Systems offered by Victoria Business School (New Zealand),

The proposed Doctor of Philosophy in Library and Information Studies compares well with all those benchmarked with in the sense that they all stress the following:

- i) Comprehensive mastery of a body of knowledge and its relation to the interdisciplinary study of information science and technology
- ii) Expertise in research design, data collection and data analysis methods
- iii) Preparedness for professional practice

(iv) Although the qualifications examined generally follow similar structures, duration, and standards, the differences are that some institutions require learners to complete course work, seminars and comprehensive examinations before undertaking the dissertation, others require a viva voce to be made open to the public whereas some institutions accept a written dissertation only. The module and overall credits for the proposed qualification are similar to those of the Doctor of Philosophy Library and Information Science offered by the University of Cape Town but differ with that of the same qualification offered in Norway.

The proposed qualification generally compares well with all the qualifications studied since the exit outcomes cover similar scope and depth and are aligned to exit-level descriptors typical of this level and type of qualification as done within the region and beyond as well as competencies required of any PhD qualification.

REVIEW PERIOD

The qualification shall be reviewed every five years.