
	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		Master of Arts in Economics								NCQF LEVEL		9	
FIELD		Business, Commerce & Management Studies			SUB-FIELD		Economics			CREDIT VALUE		270	
New Qualification					✓		Review of Existing Qualification					✓	
SUB-FRAMEWORK		General Education			TVET		Higher Education			✓			
QUALIFICATION TYPE		Certificate	I	II	III	IV	V	Diploma	Bachel or				
		Bachelor Honours			Post Graduate Certificate			Post Graduate Diploma					
		Bachelor					Masters		✓				
RATIONALE AND PURPOSE OF THE QUALIFICATION													
<u>RATIONALE</u> <p>Economics is a discipline intended to produce graduates who are able to conduct research to develop economic theories, concepts and operational methods including, but not limited to, national and international trade trends, monetary, fiscal, employment, income, productivity and consumption; compile, analyse and interpret economic data using theory and variety of statistical and other techniques; and advise on economic policy and course of action to be allowed taking into account past, present and anticipated future economic factors and trends. Thus, the MA(Economics), seeks to produce graduates who can plan, organise, direct,</p>													


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coordinate, policy advice, and strategic planning in the government, non-governmental organisations and the private sector. Additionally, graduates should be able to coordinate the research and development activities of enterprises and organisations or enterprises that related services to others. By concentrating on contributions to academic research, the qualification's focus on economics is distinct from that of the MA (Applied Economics) that focuses on applied economics. The qualification is particularly relevant in the implementation of the **Botswana Vision 2036** and the **National Human Resource Development strategy (2009-2022)**. Specifically, the MA qualification in Economics is consistent with realizing the **Botswana Vision 2036** of achieving "Prosperity for All" and is in line with Pillar 1 – Sustainable Economic Development. **National Development Plan 11** focuses on promoting "Inclusive growth for the realization of sustainable employment creation and poverty eradication." The plan is aligned with the global, continental, regional initiatives such as the **UN Sustainable Development Goals, African Union Agenda 2063, and the Revised SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan**. Further, the qualification is aligned to the objectives of the **Education and Training Sector Strategic Plan (2015-2020)** whose mandate is the development of human capital, refocusing education and training towards the fulfilment of social and economic aspirations of the country as well as the **National Human Resources Development Strategy 2009-2022** which provides a strategic framework to guide Botswana towards becoming a knowledge-based society. To fulfil the mandates of these policy frameworks, the programme aims to produce competent Economists who are committed to contributing to sustainable economic development through the use of evidence-based interventions. To this end, this programme in Economics will be based on an eclectic body of knowledge, values, behaviours, and skills that meet international standards to address the contemporary and future needs of clientele.

PURPOSE:

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

- Analyse available data to guide policy formulation.
- Identify solutions to socio-economic issues, such as poverty alleviation, employment creation and inclusive growth.

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- Analyse economic and use statistical data methods to solve the real-world problems in economic analysis and management in the various sectors such as finance, agriculture, forestry, industry, life sciences and beyond.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)


The minimum requirement for admission to the masters of Arts in economics qualification shall be:

- A Bachelor's degree NCQF Level 7.
- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Credit Accumulation Transfer (CAT) will be considered for access and inclusion.

SECTION B QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION	
GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
B.1 Demonstrate advanced knowledge and analytical skills/problem solving in the collection and documentation of data to inform economic policy	<p>B.1.1 Formulate policy to address microeconomic issues such as poverty; health related issues; household welfare; agriculture.</p> <p>B.1.2 Use Applied macroeconomics tools for analysis of macroeconomic problems such as inflation; balance of payments; external debt; financial instability.</p> <p>B.1.3 Use Eviews and STATA software applications to perform for time series/panel and cross-sectional data.</p>


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	<p>B.1.4 Design sampling techniques and survey instruments for data collection.</p> <p>B.1.5 Execute fieldwork data collection and attain high quality of data.</p> <p>B.1.6 Develop data management capacity (data coding, data entry, data analysis and interpretation of results).</p>
B.2 Utilize assessment data from economics and other disciplines to identify economic related problems and determine appropriate interventions	<p>B.2.1 Contribute to the debate on the relevant policy interventions to address the current and future economic problems.</p> <p>B.2.2 Transform research findings to appropriate policy interventions.</p>
B.3 Apply skills to analyze economic policies, discuss plausible solutions to society's economic problems	<p>B.3.1 Conduct research to make informed policy formulation decisions.</p> <p>B.3.2 Disseminate key research findings to key stakeholders (academia, policy makers, and community).</p> <p>B.3.3 Make policy recommendations based on the research findings.</p> <p>B.3.4. Apply economic analysis to everyday problems to understand events, evaluate specific policy proposals.</p>
B.4 Demonstrate advanced knowledge of Interdisciplinary Knowledge, Diverse Issues, and Global Consciousness	<p>B.4.1 Analyze Interdisciplinary Knowledge data and trends.</p> <p>B.4.2 Compile coherent and scholarly publications highlighting diverse issues in economics.</p> <p>B.4.2 Analyse government budgets and outcomes to determine their alignment to the short and long run development goals.</p>


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	B.4.3 Provide policy advice to government, private sector and the community on key national issues in line with global trends.
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SECTION C	QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE				
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT Subjects/Courses /Modules/Units	TITLE	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total (Per Subject/ Course/ Module/ Units)
		Level [8]	Level [9]	Level [10]	
	Advanced Mathematical Economics		15		15
	Advanced Econometrics		15		15
	Research Methods		15		15
	Advanced Microeconomics		30		30
	Advanced Macroeconomics		30		30
	Policy Analysis		15		15
	Two Optional courses		30		30
	Dissertation Proposal		30		30
	Dissertation		60		60
ELECTIVE/ OPTIONAL COMPONENT Courses	Planning and Project Appraisal		15		15
	Development Economics		15		15
	International Economics		15		15
	International Finance		15		15


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(Two only)	Agricultural Economics	15	15
	Environmental Economics	15	15
	Labour Economics	15	15
	Financial Institutions and Markets	15	15
	Corporate Finance and Investment	15	15
	Economics of Public Enterprises	15	15
	Monetary Theory and Practice	15	15
	Industrial Economics	15	15
	Public Sector Economics	15	15
	Economic Theory and Institutions	15	15
	Health Economics	15	15
	Managerial 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	270
TOTAL CREDITS	270
Rules of Combination: (Please Indicate combinations for the different constituent components of the qualification)	
1. Core level 9=240 Electives level 9=30 (learners choose 2) Total=270	

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS
<p>The assessment weighting of the qualification shall be:</p> <p>Formative assessment (50%) and Summative assessment (50%).</p> <p>Assessor shall be suitably qualified in the field of Economics.</p>
MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS
<p>There shall be internal and external moderation as quality assurance measure. The moderation shall be conducted by a suitably qualified person in Economics.</p>

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RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) will be applicable for consideration for award in this qualification in accordance with relevant policies and regulations.

CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER

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

PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)

Horizontal Progression (NCQF 9)

Master of Arts in Development Economics

Master of Business Administration

Vertical Progression (NCQF 10)

Doctor of Philosophy in Economics

Employment Pathways


- Economist
- Policy Analyst
- Researcher
- Lecturers in Universities

QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION

Minimum standards of achievement for the award of the qualification

A candidate is required to achieve the stipulated 270 credits inclusive of the fundamental, core and elective components, to be awarded the qualification of Masters of Arts in Economics+.

Certification

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- Candidates meeting prescribed requirements will be awarded the qualification in accordance with standards prescribed for the award of the qualification and applicable policies.
- Upon successful completion of the qualification, a candidate shall be issued with a Certificate and Academic Transcript.

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

This qualification has been benchmarked with the following:

The Master of Arts (Economics) qualification is comparable to most qualifications taught in Africa and elsewhere. Although the qualifications examined generally follow similar structures and standards there are differences, though not significant, in that the degree specify a spread of credit across levels, so that the qualification demonstrates progression, reflects the requirements of the degree definition and achieves the associated learning outcomes in a way that is appropriate to the subject area. This applies to the universities such as University of Cape Town in South Africa; Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan in Italy; Georgetown University, Washington DC, USA; and St Augustine University of Tanzania.

There are no major differences between this qualification and comparable qualifications internationally and regionally. It may be observed that qualifications frameworks are not exactly similar (especially when it comes to duration).

The MA (Economics) qualification is generally comparable in terms of qualification in credits, course content, exit level outcomes, and assessment criteria with the regional and international qualifications considered. The qualification facilitates both the vertical and horizontal articulation in the academic progression in the area of economics.

REVIEW PERIOD

The programme will be reviewed after every 5 years as per the NCQF requirement