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

SECTION A:	QUALIFICATION DETAILS								

QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER (S)	UNIVERSITY OF BOTSWANA								

TITLE	MASTER OF LAWS					NCQF LEVEL			9
FIELD	LAW AND SECURITY		SUB-FIELD		LAW	CREDIT VALUE			240

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

RATIONALE:

The rationale of the qualification is to provide qualifiers with knowledge, specific skills, applied competences and the necessary attitudes in specialised areas in the field of law. The qualifier will contribute at an advanced level to the development of knowledge in law. The qualifiers will be prepared for advanced specialized employment in law.

The Human Resource Development Council in Botswana (HRDC) has identified certain areas where there is shortage of skills in the country (HRDC, 2012). Some of the skills identified are in the social sciences such as lawyers. The Ministry of Education under the Tertiary Education Policy entitled "Towards a Knowledge Economy" also underscores the importance of developing "a holistic approach to developing the nation's human resource capacity" (Ministry of Education, Tertiary education Policy, 2008: 6). The World Bank (nd) policy note on "Botswana labour market signals on demand for skills" has also identified need for managers and supervisors in certain skills categories. The Botswana Vision 2036 further recognises education and skills development as the basis for human resource development. The Master of Laws qualification is designed to meet this market gap with specialised and advanced legal skills.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Master of Laws qualification is to:

- Train graduates with sound theoretical, conceptual and methodological grounding in specialist areas of law

- Develop competence in critical thinking, intellectual autonomy and originality in identifying investigating and resolving a research problem

- Enable qualifiers to retrieve, evaluate, analyse, interpret ad synthesise date to make informed decisions

- Prepare qualifiers to conduct self-directed study with scholarly and professional integrity
- Prepare learners with competence in applying knowledge through high level research
- Produce graduates with knowledge and skills to solve complex problems independently systematically and creatively
- Train graduates who can operate in familiar and unfamiliar contexts
- Develop effective communicators who can disseminate findings to specialists and non-specialist groups
- Develop ability to identify new areas of research within a specialized disciplinary, professional or occupational context and to lead others in appropriate investigation
- Prepare graduates for specialised employment with high level of personal responsibility and accountability and ability to supervise groups or teams
- Enable qualifiers to articulate into specialised in various fields of law through obtaining higher qualifications and professional accreditations.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)

- **Minimum Entry Requirements**

The minimum admission requirement is a Bachelor's Degree Honours (NCQF Level 8) in Law.

- **RPL and CATS**

Applicants who do not meet the above criterion but possess relevant industry experience may be considered using RPL and CATS policies for access.

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SECTION B	QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION

GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
1. Demonstrate advanced application of concepts, theories and analytical processes in relation to the discipline of Law.	1.1 Demonstrate sound theoretical, conceptual and methodological grounding in knowledge and skills of specialist subfield of law 1.2 Critically analyse data and information in selected field of enquiry
2. Demonstrate competence in critical thinking, intellectual autonomy and originality in identifying investigating and resolving a research problem	2.1 Demonstrate capacity for high level research Identify new areas of research within a specialised field 2.2 Apply knowledge and skills to identify and solve legal problems. 2.3 Exhibit ability to work in familiar and unfamiliar contexts
3. Retrieve, evaluate, analyse, interpret ad synthesise date to make informed decisions.	3.1 Design a research study 3.2 Collect data using various legal methodologies 3.3 Analyse and interpret data to solve realy workd problems. 3.4 Demonstrate ability to work independently, systematically and creatively.
4. Conduct self-directed study with scholarly and professional integrity	4.1 Demonstrate intellectual independence 4.2 Demonstrate awareness of and maintain ethical research standards
5. Demonstrate effective communication skills	5.1 Display capacity for knowledge transfer to prepare others for specialised employment.2 5.2 1. Show ability to disseminate findings to specialists and non-specialist groups

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6. Demonstrate capacity for specialised employment with high level of personal responsibility and accountability and ability to supervise groups or teams	5.1 Exhibit ability to supervise work of teams 5.2 display skills to lead others in investigation of new areas of research within discipline profession of occupation

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SECTION C	QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE		
COMPONENT	**TITLE**	**Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level**	**Total (Per** *Subject/ Course/ Module/ Units)*
		Level [9]	
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT *Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units*	*n/a*		
CORE COMPONENT *Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units*	Masters by Course Work and Research Essay	9	80
	Or Masters by Course Work and Dissertation	9	160
	Or Masters by Dissertation only	9	240
ELECTIVE/ OPTIONAL COMPONENT *Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units*	For learners taking the masters by course work and research essay, a combination, any **8 (eight)** of the following elective courses: For learners taking the masters by course work and dissertation combination, **any 4 (four)** of the following elective course:		

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	Advanced Legal Theory and Jurisprudence	9	20
	Advanced Company Law	9	20
	Advanced Labour Law	9	20
	Advanced Social Security Law	9	20
	Advanced Property Law	*9*	20
	Comparative Constitutional Law	*9*	20
	Law and Public Administration	*9*	20
	International Criminal Law	*9*	20
	International Human Rights Law	*9*	20
	World Trade Law and Developing Countries	*9*	20
	Regional Integration Law in Africa	*9*	20
	International Finance and Investment Law and Developing countries	*9*	20
	The Law of Armed Conflict	*9*	20
	International Environmental Law	*9*	20

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SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL	
TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL	
NCQF Level 9	*Credit Value 240*
LLM By coursework and Research Essay	
Fundamental	*0*
Core	*80*
Electives	*160*
TOTAL CREDITS	*240*
LLM by coursework and dissertation	
Fundamental	*0*
Core	*160*
Electives	*80*
TOTAL CREDITS	*240*
LLM by dissertation only	
Fundamental	*0*
Core	*240*
Electives	*0*
TOTAL CREDITS	*240*

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Rules of Combination:
(Please Indicate combinations for the different constituent components of the qualification)

LLM by coursework and research essay:

The qualification has no credits allocated to the fundamental component. The Core component, which is the research essay contributes **80** credits, which meets the minimum number of credits allocated to research for a master's degree under the national qualifications framework. The elective component contributes **160** credits, for a total of **240** credits.

OR

LLM by coursework and dissertation:

The qualification has no credits allocated to the fundamental component. The Core component, which is the research essay contributes **160** credits, which includes the minimum number of 80 credits allocated to research for a master's degree under the national qualifications framework. The elective component contributes **80** credits, for a total of **240** credits.

OR

LLM by dissertation only:

The qualification has no credits allocated to the fundamental component. The qualification has no elective component. The Core component, which is the research essay contributes **240** credits, which includes the minimum number of 80 credits allocated to research for a master's degree under the national qualification's framework.

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ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Assessment of course work will be comprised of 50% formative assessment (assignments and term papers) and 50% summative assessment (examinations). Assessment of research will be through an internal and external assessor report of the learner's research output.

MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS

There will be internal and external moderation as a quality assurance measure in line with the ETP policy. Moderators must be suitably qualified in the field of law.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

Recognition of prior learning will be applicable for the award of the Master of Laws degree on a case-by-case basis and as per the regulations and policies of the ETP, and in alignment with national policy.

CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER

Credit accumulation and transfer will be applicable for award of this qualification on a case-by-case assessment and as per the regulations of the ETP and in line with international policies.

PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)

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

Qualifiers may combine the qualification with any qualification in any other field for purposes of acquiring qualifications/skills of a multi-disciplinary nature.

Vertical Articulation (qualifications to which the holder may progress to)

- Doctor of Law
- Doctor of Philosophy

Employment pathways

Graduates can work as:

- Attorney
- State Counsel
- Public Prosecutor
- Magistrate
- Registrar of Court
- Master of Court

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- Judge
- Mediators, Arbitrator, and Conciliator
- Legal Aid Professionals
- Company Secretary
- Legal and Compliance and Risk Officers
- Academic
- Legal and Policy Advisor
- Legal Journalist
- Legal Publisher
- Law Librarian

QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION

Qualification

To be awarded the degree of Master of Laws the candidate must have a minimum of 240 credits.

Certification

On successful completion of studies, the student will be awarded the Master of Laws degree certificate.

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

The LLM 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 in South Africa, Ireland and the United Kingdom.
The structure of the Botswana qualification and regional and international qualifications is largely similar
- All qualifications combine coursework with research or allow research only masters
- All qualifications allow flexibility in choice of courses at maters level
There are no major differences between the Botswana LLM qualification and comparable qualifications internationally and regionally
- It may be observed that qualifications frameworks are not exactly similar.
- programme as offered by the University of Botswana and the comparable LLM programmes in the matrix.
- The Botswana qualification does not offer any core courses.

REVIEW PERIOD

The qualification will be reviewed every five years according to NCQF policy.

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