

 BOTSWANA Qualifications Authority				
			Issue No.	01
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SECTION A: QUALIFICATION DETAILS													
QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER (S)				University of Botswana									
TITLE		Bachelor of Arts (Political Science)								NCQF LEVEL		7	
FIELD		Humanities and Social Sciences		SUB-FIELD		Political Science				CREDIT VALUE		482	
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>The discipline of Political Science is concerned with the exercise of political power, both at the state and the international level. Political Science has a number of sub-disciplines, such as International Relations, International Political Economy, Security Studies, Political Theory, Public Policy, and Comparative Politics. Since Political Science is concerned with the use of political power, graduates of Political Science have a better understanding of how the world works, and how it could be improved. Political Science qualification is relevant for Botswana's economy because as the country strives towards a knowledge-based economy and the 4th Industrial revolution, it is imperative to produce graduates who are skilled in governance and leadership and competent to devise evidence-based policies that address emerging challenges. This is consistent with one of Botswana's vision 2036 aspirations of a knowledge-based economy which is the first pillar of vision 2036. More precisely, to achieve a knowledge-based economy, the country aspires to develop its education, training and skills development systems that embrace science, innovation and technology. Related, the pillar recognizes the importance of human capital in driving economic growth across all the sectors. More specifically, pillar 4 of the vision speaks to governance, peace and security, which are the cornerstones of any functioning democracy. Amongst the objectives to be achieved under</p>													

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this pillar, institutional framework, transparency and accountability, separation of powers and effective oversight as well as good foreign relations. On this basis, Political Science qualification is ever relevant to meet Botswana's economic demands. The qualification is tailor-made to produce graduates that are prepared to drive the objectives of Vision 2036 particularly pillars one and four.

Over the years, graduates of Political Science have worked in various state institutions, the private sector, and some international organizations. However, as the country attempts to transform from a resource-driven to a knowledge-based economy, particularly in line with Vision 2036, there is need for a new graduate who is not only equipped to work for the state institutions and international organizations, but also has a better understanding of how political power works, at both the state and the international level. Therefore, the rationale of this qualification is to produce a well-rounded graduate who has a better understanding of not only how power works, but also a full conception of the dynamic world, particularly its challenges and opportunities.

PURPOSE:

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

- Formulate policy and resolution of day-to-day development challenges of their societies and the world at large.
- Understand specialized knowledge in the dynamics of power and authority and their practical application in government, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and international organization.
- Lead and govern in any organization.
- Apply public relations, marketing, conflict resolution and management, diplomatic negotiations, political analysis, and research.

2.0 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)

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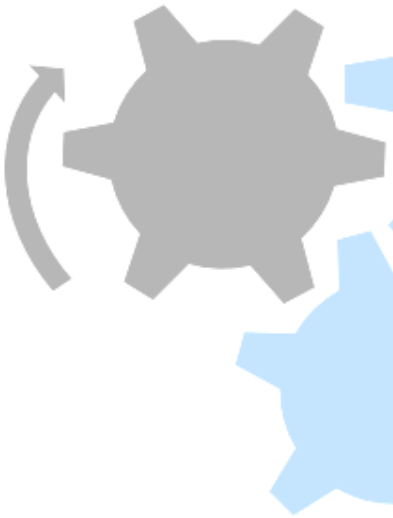
The entrance requirements for a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science shall be:

2.1 Certificate IV NCQF LEVEL 4 or equivalent qualification.

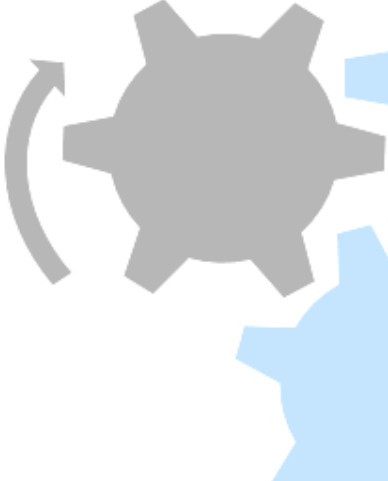
2.2 Entry through Recognition of Prior Learning in line with institutional and National Policies will be considered.

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3.0 SECTION B QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION	
GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
<p>3.1 Demonstrate specialized knowledge in governance and leadership to enable them to lead departments and units in organizations.</p> 	<p>3.1.1 Apply specialized concepts, principles, and processes of organizational hierarchy of power and authority (chain of command) when developing organizational processes and procedures to promote good governance.</p> <p>3.1.2 Implement mission and vision for the realization of long-term organizational strategies and objectives.</p> <p>3.1.3 Develop and implement the policies to achieve organizational efficiency and service delivery.</p> <p>3.1.4 Identify and suggest possible areas of cooperation between government departments, the military and civil society to secure and protect national interests</p> <p>3.1.5 Employ specialized knowledge of government laws, regulations, processes and procedures in developing effective government and private sector policies, strategies and programmes.</p> <p>3.1.6 Apply knowledge of organization procedures including but not limited to dispute management and disciplinary processes, public relations and communication in people management and societal engagement.</p>

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<p>3.2 Negotiate and advocate for policies, bargain for political, diplomatic and economic deals within the necessary national and foreign policy frameworks.</p> 	<p>3.2.1 Write informative policy briefs for internal communication and public education to enhance participatory democracy.</p> <p>3.2.2 Write speeches and media releases to communicate government policies and promote dialogue.</p> <p>3.2.3 Engage in scientific research including mass surveys, focus group discussions and questionnaires to inform government policy.</p> <p>3.2.4 Analyse politics and the work of government and different groups such as political parties, NGOs and IGO to provide expert opinions in informing decision making,</p> <p>3.2.6 Identify, formulate, monitor, and evaluate policies to assess their effectiveness in addressing societal problems.</p> <p>3.2.7 Gather and analyze data and information to support conferences or debates to promote dialogue, organizational growth and development.</p> <p>3.2.8 Assess emerging security threats to advice on the formulation of security and foreign policy.</p>
<p>3.3 Demonstrate specialized knowledge of the interface between Constitutional Law and Administrative Law, including the different legal systems and their requirements relating to political science within Botswana.</p>	<p>3.3.1 Evaluate effectiveness of instruments in relation to evidence in court proceedings to inform internal processes and administrative decisions.</p> <p>3.3.2 Apply appropriate research methods to evaluate court judgements and administrative decisions to formulate conclusions on the effectiveness of the same.</p> <p>3.3.3 Distinguish between results with evidential value and those without to determine the fairness of decisions.</p> <p>3.3.4 Present results from the evaluation of evidence in the form of an affidavit acceptable in the court of law to guide legal proceedings.</p>
<p>3.4 Conduct evidence-based research to solve complex organizational policy problems.</p>	<p>3.4.1 Conduct mass surveys, focus group discussions and questionnaires to identify a relevant research problem or opportunity in the organization and business environment.</p>

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	<p>3.4.2 Review and summarize information from different stakeholders on specific policy matters to inform decisions.</p> <p>3.4.3 Effectively use various research tools to write strong, evidence-based papers.</p> <p>3.4.4 Apply qualitative comparative methods to assess the functioning of various institutions for benchmarking purposes and to improve their performance.</p>
3.5 Communicate information efficiently and effectively to colleagues and stakeholders.	<p>3.5.1 Use appropriate language to produce clear and coherent written documents for internal communication.</p> <p>3.5.2 Present information effectively and clearly during internal administrative processes and or court proceedings to aid decision making.</p> <p>3.5.3 Apply correct and appropriate verbal, non-verbal and visual forms of representation to diverse audiences to enhance communication.</p> <p>3.5.4 Demonstrate the ability to conceive, understand and present material for branding and marketing purposes.</p>
3.6. Demonstrate competencies in leadership	<p>3.6.1 Lead and guide a team to achieve the organization's mission, vision, and objectives.</p> <p>3.6.2 Train leaders in different organizations to enhance leadership performance.</p> <p>3.6.3 Effectively communicate on behalf of an organization to protect its image and/or popularize the organization.</p> <p>3.6.4 Resolve internal disputes for smooth achievement of organizational goals.</p>

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4 QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE		SECTION C	
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units	TITLE	Level	Credits
	Introduction to Political Science	7	12
	Introduction to Public Administration	7	12
	Basic Microeconomics	7	12
	Basic Statistics	7	12
	Computer Skills Fundamentals 1	6	6
	Communication and Academic Literacy Skills (Social Sciences)	6	6
	The Modern State	7	12
	Institutions and Processes of Public Administration	7	12
	Basic Macro Economics	7	12
	Statistical Tools for Social Research (3) (prerequisite STA111)	7	12
	Computer Skills Fundamentals 2	6	6
	Academic and Professional Communication (Social Sciences)	6	6
CORE COMPONENT Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units	Botswana Politics	7	16
	Intermediate Microeconomics for Non-major or Intermediate Microeconomics	7	14
	Constitutional Law	7	14
	Classical Political Thought	8	16
	Intermediate Macroeconomics for Non-major or Intermediate Macro Economics	7	14
	Concepts & Principles of Social Research	8	16
	Modern Political Thought	8	16
	International Political Economy	8	16
	Contemporary Africa	8	16
	Politics of Southern Africa	8	16
	Politics of Regionalism	8	16
	Administrative Law	7	12
	International Relations	8	14
	Democratic Theory and Practice	8	14
	Internship in Political Science	8	16
ELECTIVE/ OPTIONAL	Comparative Politics	8	16
	Security Studies	8	16
	One Optional Course from:		

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COMPONENT <i>Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units</i>	Social Inequality	7	14
	Media and Politics	7	
	One Optional Course from:		
	Politics of South Africa	7	14
	Sociology of Development	7	
	Two Optional Courses from:		16
	Politics of Poverty in Southern Africa	7	
	Political Sociology	7	
	Politics & Management of Natural Resources	7	
	Core-coding ENS301 Contemporary Environmental Issues or ENS402 Natural Resource Management & Economics	7	
	Two Optional Courses from:		
	Africa in World Politics	7	16
	Civil-Military Relations	7	
	Government Budgeting	7	
	Leadership & Governance	7	
	Two Optional Courses from:		
	Modern Ideologies	7	20
	Research Project in Political Science	7	
	International Administration	7	
	Plus Three Electives	6	24
	TOTAL		482

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SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL

TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL

NCQF Level	Credit Value
6	48
7	246
8	188
TOTAL CREDITS	482

5.0 Rules of Combination:

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

Learners should complete all fundamentals (120 credits), core (254 credits), and elective components (108 credits), in total (482 credits) to achieve this qualification.

Credit Distribution:

Level and Credits	Compulsory	Elective	Total
Level...6...Credits..... 24	24		
Level...7...Credits..... 240	312	18	
Level 8Credits.....20	128		
Minimum credits total: 480	464	18	482

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6.0	ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS
<p>Assessment Strategies, requirements and weightings</p> <p>All candidates will be awarded the certificate upon successful completion of both formative and summative assessments outcomes, which shall be as follows:</p> <p>Formative Assessment</p> <p>Formative assessment or continuous assessment contributing towards the award of credits will be based on course outcomes. The contribution of formative assessment to the final grade shall be 40%.</p> <p>Summative assessment</p> <p>The summative assessment will be based on a final piece of work, which will take place at the end of the semester. This type of assessment will account for 60%.</p>	
7.0	MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS
<p>There will be provision for moderation requirements both internally and externally by BQA registered and accredited moderators.</p>	
8.0	RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There shall be a provision for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for the award of the qualification. This shall be done in line with the institutional policy and National RPL Policy. 	
9.0	CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There shall be provision for Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) for the award of the qualification. This shall be done in line with the institutional policy and National CAT Policy 	

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10.0 PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)

10.1 Employment pathways

- Policy Analyst
- Political Strategist
- Political Consultant
- Legislative assistant
- Committee / Board Secretary
- Court Reporter
- Research Assistant
- Project Manager / Administrators

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

- BSc in International Relations
- Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration
- Bachelor of Arts in Economics
- Bachelor of Art in Business Administration
- Bachelor of Art in Public Policy
- BSc in International Business
- Bachelor of Arts in Sociology
- Bachelor of Arts in Labour Economics

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

Graduates may progress to higher-level qualifications such as;

- Post Graduate Diploma in Political Science or a related field;
- Honors degree in Political Science or a related field;
- Master's degree in Political Science or a related field;

11.0 QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION

Minimum standards of achievement for the award of the qualification

For a candidate to be awarded a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science qualification, they need to have;

- Attained a total of 482 credits required under this qualification
- Completed all Core, Optional, Electives, and General Education courses indicated in the structure of the qualification

Certification

On successful attainment of the qualification, a candidate shall be issued with a certificate of Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a transcript revealing the marks acquired each module and a cumulative grade point average.

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12.0 REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

The qualification was benchmarked with regional and international universities namely University of Namibia in SADC region and University of Leicester in UK. The qualification compares well with the BA in Political Science qualification offered at the University of Namibia and Bachelor of Arts in Politics offered by the University of Leicester in the United Kingdom. As illustrated below, the title of the qualification, the level, credit value and main exit outcome closely match the BA Political Science qualification.

Title of Qualification = Title of Qualification= BA Politics

NQF Level & Credit Value= 480 credits level 7

Main Exit Outcome(s) = Engages with the challenges of society and with the place of South Africa in Africa, the Global South, and the wider world

University	Title of Qualification	NQF Level	Credit Value
University of Namibia	BA in Political Science	7	512
University of Leicester	BA Politics	6	480
University of Botswana	BA Political Science	7	480

Domains/Modules Courses/Subjects covered

University of Namibia -Namibia	University of Leicester – United Kingdom	University of Botswana
Namibia Politics	Political Participation in Britain	Botswana Politics
Contemporary African Politics	International Relations, Statecraft and Political Conflict in Africa	Contemporary Africa
Comparative Politics	Comparative European Politics	Comparative Politics
International Political Economy	Power in World Economy	International Political Economy
Conflict and Dispute Resolution	International Security Studies	Security Studies
The State in Africa	Democracy and EU Membership in Post-communist Europe	Africa in World Politics
Political Economy of Southern Africa	European Union Politics	Politics of Southern Africa

Comparability with regional University

			
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The University of Namibia was used in the SADC region to compare its Bachelor of Arts in Political Studies with the Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. The following is a summary of similarities and differences between the qualifications:

Similarities

- Both qualifications have similar entry requirements
- Both qualifications take a duration of 4 years to complete
- The qualifications generally follow the same structure in terms of courses studied across academic years and semesters with slight differences in terminology.
- The qualifications offered at UNAM and UB have similar progression pathways for graduates.

Differences

- Though similar in some respects, the number of credits for the BA Political Science qualification at University of Namibia is higher compared to the UB qualification.
- The weekly contact hours for BA Political Science in University of Namibia are more than the weekly contact hours for the UB qualification.
- The assessment criteria for the qualifications are different in terms of the weightings and assessment activities. While assessment for BA Political Science courses in Namibia uses a ratio of 50:50, the UB qualification uses 60:40.

Comparability with an international University

Similarities

- The qualification also compares well with other international Universities such as University of Leicester in the United Kingdom, namely Bachelor of Arts in Politics. The student learning outcomes are similar and have very related objectives. For example, on the modules sampled above, “Botswana Politics” and “Political Participation in Britain”, share common exit outcomes.
- The same goes for, the objectives of teaching “International Relations, Statecraft and Political Conflict in Africa” and “Contemporary Africa.” For most courses taught at the University of Leicester, the

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similarity rests on the learning outcomes.

- Both the University of Botswana and University of Leicester's BA qualifications carry a credit load of 480 credits, that is, 120 credits per academic year.

Differences

- The main difference lie on the contexts within with the courses / modules may discuss certain concepts. For example, comparative politics at the University of Leicester is limited to Europe. On the same wavelength, whilst the latter will teach "European Union Politics", the University of Botswana will teach "Politics of Southern Africa", yet the theme under both modules is regional politics.
- The University of Botswana offers four years of study, while the University of Leicester offer three years of study with an option to take one academic year at Level 300 with some other University. Whilst, in the main structure this is a different practice, the University of Botswana is also flexible with credits acquired from a competent University.
- Though similar in learning outcomes, the University of Leicester teaching and learning methods are much more rigorous as they include seminars, role playing and simulations while the University of Botswana programme methods are limited to lectures and tutorials.

REVIEW PERIOD

This Qualification will be reviewed after every 5 years.

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