
	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 Political Science										NCQF LEVEL	10		
FIELD	Humanities and Social Sciences			SUB-FIELD		Political Science				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>The study of Political Science is wide-ranging and diverse. The discipline of Political Science is concerned with political governance, both at the national, regional, continental, and international levels. Political Science has several sub-disciplines, such as International Relations, International Political Economy, Security Studies, Political Theory, Public Policy, and Comparative Politics. Since Political Science is concerned with political governance, graduates of Politics have a better understanding of how the world is governed, and how it could be improved.</p> <p>Political Science deals extensively with the analysis of political systems, the theoretical and practical applications to politics, and the examination of political behavior. Political scientists view themselves as being engaged in fleshing out the connections between political events and conditions, and by this understanding, they hope to construct a system of general principles that posit the way the world of politics works. Political scientists are much sought after these days because of the changing landscape of politics across the world and since society</p>														

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wants to understand how the political world works, they need someone to explain the nuances of the political economy. Any casual perusal of the newspapers and television channels reveals that political scientists are at the forefront of debates and discussions about their knowledge and expertise.

Over the years, graduates of Politics 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 a need for a graduate who is not only equipped to work for state institutions and international organizations, but also has more advanced knowledge of how political governance works at both the national, regional, continental, and global levels.

PURPOSE:


The purpose of the qualification is to produce graduates who have the most advanced knowledge, skills, and competences to:

- Demonstrate advanced thinking and analytical skills in solving political issues.
- Produce a treatise through the analysis and synthesis of the relevant data, concepts, and theories.
- Apply critical thinking and analytical skills in solving political issues.
- Conduct advanced research in political governance.
- Carry out consultancy work for international organisations and be able to lead global institutions.


ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)

Minimum entry requirements:


- Master's Degree in the same or a cognate field of study.
- Access through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) will be provided through ETP policies in line with National RPL and CAT Policies.

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SECTION B QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION	
GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
LO1 Appraise and analyse existing ideas and theories in Political Science.	1.1 Evaluate competing theoretical approaches and interpretations to understand contemporary challenges. 1.2 Analyse and apply political analysis techniques in understanding various political, social, and economic issues, ideas, and phenomena. 1.3 Use political theories, paradigms, and concepts in examining and addressing a variety of political issues and phenomena. 1.4 Evaluate, and express political theories and ideas on various platforms such as group discussions, class presentations, and seminars.
LO2 Demonstrate the most advanced knowledge and appropriate level of competence in Political Science	2.1 Present seminar papers. 2.2 Publish articles in accredited journals.
LO 3. Demonstrate advanced thinking and analytical skills in solving political issues.	3.1. Solve public governance problems and international conflict issue areas. 3.2. Resolve political, and governance problems.
LO 4. Demonstrate knowledge of advanced philosophical and theoretical debates influencing research in the social sciences.	4.1. Evaluate the logic and philosophical foundation of social science research. 4.2 Carry out advanced research designs and methodologies. 4.3 Identify, define, and justify a research project problem.
LO 5. Apply the use of ICT for information retrieval and processing as well as communication and collaboration with others.	5.1. Use Microsoft tools such as PowerPoint, Excel, and Microsoft Word for writing, presentations, and basic calculations. 5.4. Present information in a variety of formats using ICT. 5.5. Communicate and collaborate locally and globally using ICT.
LO 6. Apply advanced skills in using a range of	6.1. Conduct research based on an approved research tool.

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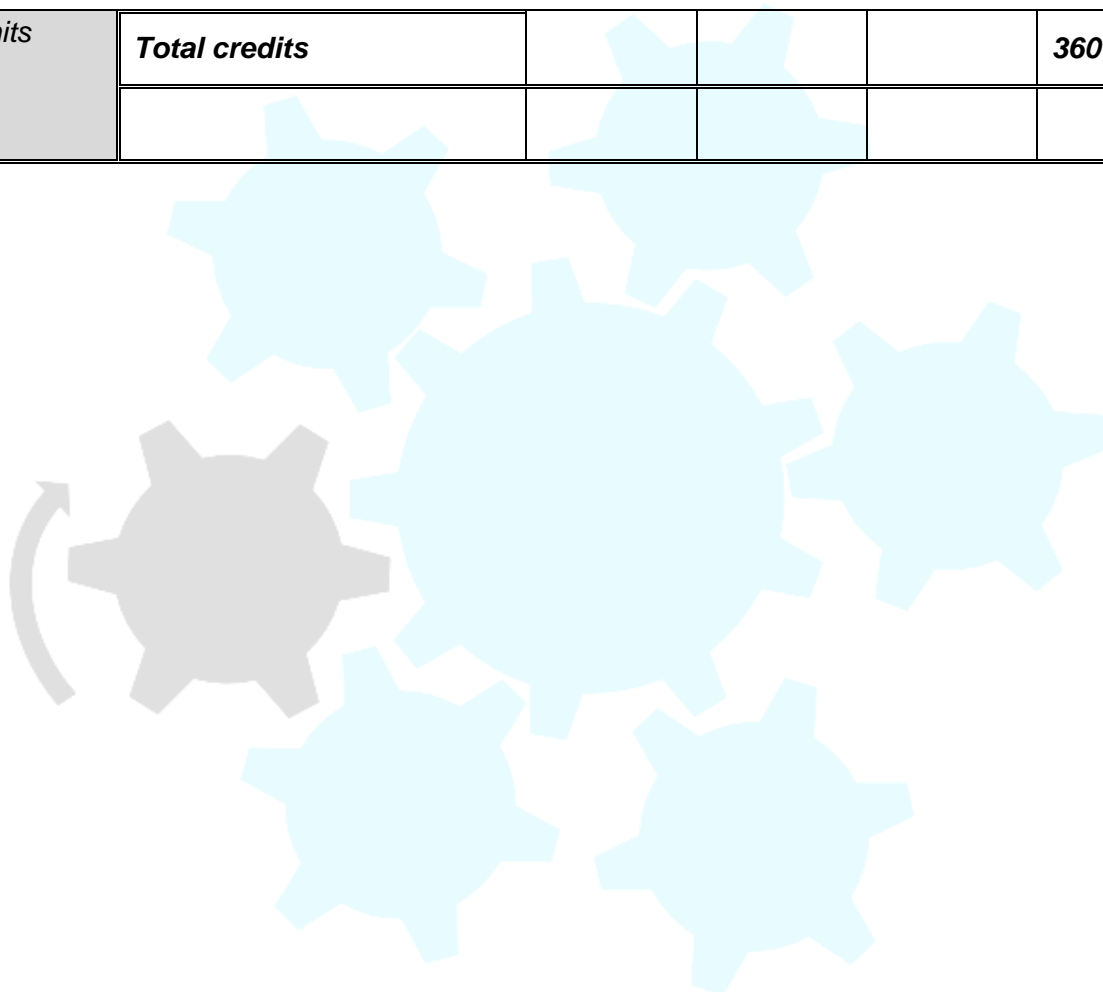
quantitative and qualitative methods for gathering, analyzing, and interpreting data.	6.2 Perform and interpret complex quantitative and qualitative data analysis techniques. 6.3 Determine familiarity with various computer-related data analysis software.
LO 7. Demonstrate the use of research through the production of an original thesis that informs social policy recommendations.	7.1. Present research findings in various research dissemination platforms. 7.2 Formulate political policy recommendations based on a thorough analysis of research findings.


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SECTION C	QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE				
COMPONENT	TITLE	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total (Per Subject/ Course/ Module/ Units)
		Level []	Level []	Level [10]	
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT <i>Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units</i>					
	Advanced Social Science Research Methods			45	45
	Guided Readings and Seminars in Politics			45	45
CORE COMPONENT <i>Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units</i>	Thesis Proposal			45	45
	Supervised Research and thesis in Politics			45	45
	100,000 words dissertation			180	180
ELECTIVE/ OPTIONAL COMPONENT <i>Subjects/Courses/</i>					


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<i>Modules/Units</i>	Total credits				360



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SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL	
TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL	
NCQF Level [10]	Credit Value
Dissertation	180
Course work	90
Dissertation proposal	45
Supervised research and dissertation in politics	45
TOTAL CREDITS	360
Rules of Combination: (Please Indicate combinations for the different constituent components of the qualification)	
<p>Though students will attend lectures, teaching will take place through interactive seminars in which students will have the opportunity to participate and present their work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ph.D. degree shall be offered through a combination of coursework and individually supervised research. In the first year of the degree, all students shall be required to take and pass a total of five courses. At least two research supervisors shall be identified before any student is admitted. Each student admitted for the qualification shall work under the general supervision of a supervisory committee appointed by the university. <p>Qualification details: At the successful completion of Part 1, a candidate shall proceed to Part 2 of the Ph.D. where the candidate is expected to carry out fieldwork and thesis writing.</p>	

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ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

1. Submission of a Ph.D. thesis.
2. The format and content of the thesis shall be as follows:
 - Ph.D.hD thesis shall normally be 100,000.00
 - The Ph.D. thesis is assessed be on originality and substantial contribution to the body of knowledge and demonstrate evidence of a greater depth of scholarship and carries 120 credits
3. The thesis shall be examined by registered and accredited internal and external examiners/assessors.
4. The thesis shall be presented orally by the candidate before a board of examiners.

MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS

The qualification shall have two types of moderation:

- Internal moderation.
- External moderation.

This will be by the applicable institutional and national policies and regulations.

Moderators shall be registered and accredited by BQA.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

Prior Learning from other institutions recognized by the Botswana Qualifications Authority (BQA) will be recognized and used for entry into this qualification.


CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER

Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) will be used for exemption from part of the qualification such as exemption from modules in which the prescribed learning outcomes for this qualification have already been achieved.

PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)

Horizontal Articulation:

- Doctor of Philosophy in Peace and Conflict.
- Doctor of Philosophy in International Relations.
- Doctor of Philosophy in Public Administration.
- Doctor of Philosophy in History.

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- Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology

Vertical Articulation:

- The Ph.D. qualification often articulates vertically to lucratively funded post-doctoral fellowships in the specialized field.

Employment Pathways:

- State institutions.
- Regional organizations (SADC, AU, UN, etc).
- Embassies.
- Civil society.
- Political Consultant.
- Policy Analyst/ expert.
- International organizations.
- Regional organizations.
- Academics/research institutions.
- Journalism.
- Active politics.
- Diplomacy.
- Local government.

QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION

Qualification award:


A candidate who has taken and passed all taught courses and whose thesis has been passed and has successfully defended it before the board of examiners in an oral examination and has accumulated 360 credits shall be awarded the qualification.

Certification:

The Doctor of Philosophy in Politics shall be awarded to the student on successful completion of all the stipulated requirements which are 180 credits of taught courses and 180 credits of the thesis plus one published referred journal article.

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

The qualification compares favourably with those offered by universities in South Africa, the United Kingdom, Australia, and the United States of America. A student who graduates with a Ph.D. degree in Politics studies from the University of Botswana shall be equipped with problem-solving skills, the ability to conduct research, and the competence to carry out self-directed work and learning.

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To ensure comparability with similar degree qualifications the Ph.D. qualification was developed through a conscientious benchmarking exercise. Prior exploratory research and internet search were conducted to identify universities and institutes in the region, the continent of Africa, and globally that offer similar degree programmes.

Comparability with Regional Universities

Three (3) universities in the region were selected to compare their qualification structure with the proposed qualification and to learn from them. The selected Universities are:

- The University of Witwatersrand, South Africa Ph.D. (Political Studies)
- The University of Lagos, Nigeria Ph.D. (Political Science)
- The University of Cape Town, South Africa Ph.D. (Political Studies)
- The University of Nairobi, Kenya Ph.D. (Political Science)

Similarities

- They are similar in terms of duration which is 4 years
- They have several similar exit learning outcomes.

Differences

- The African universities are varied in terms of degree designation and period of study. The University of Nairobi offers theirs in 3 years, UTC offers theirs in 3-5 years and Wits University offers theirs in 3-5 years.

Comparability with International Universities

The Ph.D. in Political Studies qualification was benchmarked with four reputable international universities from three different continents (America, Oceania, and Europe). They were chosen because they are among the very few universities outside of Africa that focus on strategic studies at the postgraduate level.


- M.Phil./Ph.D. in Politics in the University of London.
- Ph.D. in Political Science at the Loyola University, Chicago, United States
- Ph.D. Political Science in the University of California, Berkeley, United States
- Ph.D. in Political Science, University of New South Wales, Australia

Similarities

- In respect of some of the applicable standards and rules for the award of the Ph.D. qualification, the Ph.D. (Political Science qualification is like that of the M.Phil/Ph.D. in Politics, University of London, UK and Ph.D. in Political Science University of California, United States and Loyola University, Chicago, United States, as the master's degree qualification in the four universities requires a minimum of four (4) years to obtain.

Differences

- Unlike the University of London (UK) and the University of New South Wales, both of which offer four

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years degrees in Political Science. Also different from Loyola University, where the qualification takes six years, and the University of California in the United States, where it takes three years.

REVIEW PERIOD

5 YEARS

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