

BQA NCQF Qualification Template

DNCQF.FDMD.GD03

Issue No.: 01

SECTION A: QUALIFICATION DETAILS																	
QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER		University of Botswana															
TITLE	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Urban and Regional Planning														NCQF LEVEL	8	
FIELD	Physical Planning and Construction				SUB-FIELD	Architecture				CREDIT VALUE	124						
<i>New Qualification</i>								<i>Review of Existing Qualification</i>						✓			
SUB-FRAMEWORK	<i>General Education</i>						<i>TVET</i>						<i>Higher Education</i>				✓
QUALIFICATION TYPE	<i>Certificate</i>	<i>I</i>		<i>II</i>		<i>III</i>		<i>IV</i>		<i>V</i>		<i>Diploma</i>		<i>Bachelor</i>			
	<i>Bachelor Honours</i>			✓	<i>Post Graduate Certificate</i>					<i>Post Graduate Diploma</i>							
	<i>Masters</i>								<i>Doctorate/ PhD</i>								
RATIONALE AND PURPOSE OF THE QUALIFICATION																	
<p>RATIONALE:</p> <p>According to the 2020 World Cities Report, over 56.2% of the world's population is currently living in urban areas. By 2036, this proportion will have increased to 62.5%. During this period, the urban population in Africa is expected to almost double from 492 million in 2015 to 966 million in 2035. Like elsewhere in the developing world, Botswana is experiencing rapid urbanization process. The population living in towns, cities and urbanized villages has increased from 20,993 in 1964 to 1,251,235 in 2011 constituting, respectively, 4.2% and 61.8% of the nation's total population. In addition to offering numerous opportunities, such a vast and rapid expansion of the urban population also poses formidable developmental challenges expressed spatially in the form of competing and complementary land uses. Physical planning serves as a medium through which</p>																	

competing land use processes are studied, negotiated, and mediated pursuant of sustainable, just and inclusive human settlements.

Physical planning enables private, civil society and public sector stakeholders to guide urban development initiatives by making connections between short-term actions and long-term visions. Physical planning sets technical and legal frameworks and boundaries that any detailed project must adhere to. It also drives urban transformations, redevelopment, and renewal in a practical and sustainable manner by balancing current needs and demands for services and infrastructure with available resources and future requirements. The qualification is structured such that it addresses physical planning issues at different spatial levels- national, regional, and international. At national level, the qualification responds the country's call for sustainable environment as expressed in successive National Development Plans and Vision 2036. In recognition of the critical role played by physical planning in national development, the Botswana Human Resources Development Council., acknowledge physical planners as one of the country's preferred professionals. At the international level, the physical planning qualification champions the country's efforts in pushing for the realization of Goal 11 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which calls for 'inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable cities and human settlements. In a bid to enhance its international status, the qualification is fully accredited with the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) in the United Kingdom (UK).

The *Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Urban and Regional Planning* was fully accredited by the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) in 2014 under the nomenclature Master of Arts (professional) In Urban and Regional Planning. It is the second exit level after the four years of in BSc in Urban and Regional Planning qualification. In terms of the National Credit and Qualifications Framework, the BSc in Urban and Regional Planning at Level 7 while BSc Honours is at level 8, allowing its graduates to register and practice as professional planners. Within the region and in other jurisdictions, the BSc Honours alone is similar to a Post Graduate Diploma, together with the BSc in URP and is normally referred to as BSc (Honours) in most planning schools. The BSc Honours therefore should give a total maximum of 120 credits, however due to the very involving research project which is required for the professional qualification the BSc Honours gives 124 credits, which is within the maximum allowable.

At the time of approval of the associated qualification by the University of Botswana structures in 2012, the MA (Professional) was not a nomenclature that was used at the University of Botswana, neither was the Honours qualification.

The qualification and the nomenclature used then was approved on the strength of the recommendation by RTPI. The basis for the RTPI recommendation was the Bologna Convention that standardized professional qualifications in Europe, with qualifications at NCQF level 8 classified as first professional qualifications.

The University of Botswana has recently allowed the use of the Honours nomenclature for some of its qualifications, hence the submission of the BSc Hons qualification. The Urban and Regional Planning qualification at UB has started engagements with RTPI towards considering the use of BSc (Honours) nomenclature for the NCQF Level 8. The current qualification title will be revised accordingly.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this qualification is to produce graduates with highly specialised knowledge, skills, and competences to,

- Design and implement original research that contribute to sustainable, resilient, and liveable cities.
- Apply specialist spatial planning perspectives in analysing and assessing the contexts, causes and effects of urbanisation.
- Identify and develop specialist technologies, policies, and practices to promote place making.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)

Minimum entry requirements into the BSc (Hons) in Urban and Regional Planning will be Bachelor's degree in Urban and Regional Planning or equivalent.

And/or Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Credit Accumulation Transfer (CAT)

SECTION B		QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION	
GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)		ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	
1. Engage in theoretical, practical, and ethical debate at the forefront of the area of the specialism in the context of spatial planning		1.1. Analyze the structure, objectives and responsibilities underlying the practice of spatial planning from a Botswana perspective 1.2. Examine and provide reasoned advice on key issues in planning practice including the legal and policy context of development control 1.3. Illustrate the legal basis and administrative aspects of spatial planning decision making through the plan-making, development control and appeal processes. 1.4. Generate and analyze descriptive statistics, such as population census, in plan-making and current plan reviews 1.5. Apply appropriate knowledge pertaining to political, policy and institutional contexts, and of planning legislation and procedures to prepare plans and formulate policies with spatial orientation at different scales 1.6. Undertake planning with due appreciation of aesthetic dimensions, and with sensitivity to the links between human settlement and the natural environment	
2. Evaluate the social, economic, environmental, and political context for the area of specialism		2.1. Apply the methods and skills of research to investigate issues that inform public policy 2.2. Examine the theories, processes, and consequences of rapid urbanization within the context of social change 2.3. Interpret and apply plans to ongoing decision-making and problem-solving 2.4. Collect, analyze, and organize information to determine planning processes and use technologies to assist these processes 2.5. Apply managerial and communicative skills necessary for	

	<p>managing planning and development processes in the public, private and voluntary sectors</p> <p>2.6. Conduct research using appropriate methodologies to generate knowledge and solutions to planning problems</p>
<p>3. Evaluate the distinctive contribution of the specialism to the making of place and the mediation of space</p>	<p>3.1. Identify and analyze issues that the planning system will confront and manage and reflect on the range of approaches to deal with the planning issues.</p> <p>3.2. Explore design issues, such as sensory experience of space, problematic building types, density issues and regeneration in human settlements.</p> <p>3.3. Apply theoretical and operational concepts of urban design, such as biophilia, smart growth, green urbanism to a given site</p> <p>3.4. Draw on the policies and processes that bring forward developments that stand the test of test and enhance the built environment</p> <p>3.5. Analyze contemporary policies, objectives, strategies and funding mechanisms of urban regeneration, urban redevelopment, and urban renewal</p> <p>3.6. Examine different approaches to securing desired change based on elements such as movement and mobility, urban landscape, and local identity.</p> <p>3.7. Examine the general elements of development and management in a local government and development setting through design guides, design codes and site briefs.</p> <p>3.8. Communicate and negotiate the required implementation plan, strategy, and policies.</p> <p>3.9. Apply theories relating to urban, rural, and regional development to design, manage and implement planning interventions that bring about positive change and societal benefits within human settlements</p>

4. Assess the contribution of the specialism to the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change	<p>4.1. Identify and apply climate data to determine the level of awareness of climate change in a community or city.</p> <p>4.2. Explain the climate data and climate science to demonstrate the climate crisis/emergency to various stakeholders.</p> <p>4.3. Engage communities on the possible mitigation and adaptation measures to deal with the climate emergency.</p> <p>4.4. Identify best practice examples of tackling climate change by local authorities (councils) or communities.</p> <p>4.5. Put together a climate action plan for the local authority or a community.</p> <p>4.6. Address the availability and use of environmental resources.</p> <p>4.7. Review and adopt appropriate methods for conserving these environmental resources.</p> <p>4.8. Apply detailed knowledge of environmental planning, contemporary theories, principles and concepts at different scales and levels to mitigate and adapt to climate change.</p>

Three streams of specialization

The qualification is structured into three specialisms, (i) Design (ii) Planning Policy and (iii) Planning Techniques. That is learners can take courses which are offered for the three distinct specialisms, with a couple of common and shared courses across the specialisms. The qualification structure is, therefore, provided in three separate tables below.

(i) Design Specialism

SECTION C	QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE				
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT <i>Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units</i>	TITLE	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total <i>(Per Subject/ Course/ Module/ Units)</i>
		Level [7]	Level [8]	Level [9]	
	Research Methods and Techniques	12			12
CORE COMPONENT <i>Subjects/Courses / Modules/Units</i>	New Urbanism		25		25
	Landscape Design		15		15
	Research Project – Supervised Dissertation		60		60
		12	100		112

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<i>ELECTIVE/ OPTIONAL COMPONENT</i> <i>Subjects/Courses / Modules/Units</i>	Integrated Housing Studies		12		12
	Public Participation and Negotiation Techniques		12		12

SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL	
TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL	
NCQF Level	Credit Value
7	12
8	112
TOTAL CREDITS	124
Rules of Combination: (Please Indicate combinations for the different constituent components of the qualification)	

(ii) Planning Policy specialism

SECTION C	QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE				
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units	TITLE	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total (Per Subject/ Course/ Module/ Units)
		Level [7]	Level [8]	Level [9]	
	Research Methods and Techniques	12			12

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CORE COMPONENT <i>Subjects/Courses / Modules/Units</i>	Integrated Development Planning		15		15
	Regional and Rural Development Planning		25		25
	Research Project – Supervised Dissertation		60		60
		12	100		112
ELECTIVE/ OPTIONAL COMPONENT <i>Subjects/Courses / Modules/Units</i>	Comparative Planning		12		12
	Administrative and Policy Planning		12		12

SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL	
TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL	
NCQF Level	Credit Value
7	12
8	112
TOTAL CREDITS	124
Rules of Combination: (Please Indicate combinations for the different constituent components of the qualification)	

(iii) *Planning Techniques specialism*

SECTION C	QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE				
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units	TITLE	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total (Per Subject/ Course/ Module/ Units)
		Level [7]	Level [8]	Level []	
	Research Methods and Techniques	12			12
	Planning Support Systems		25		25
CORE COMPONENT Subjects/Courses / Modules/Units	Development Impact Assessment		15		15
	Research Project – Supervised Dissertation		60		60
		12	100		112
ELECTIVE/ OPTIONAL COMPONENT Subjects/Courses / Modules/Units	Comparative planning		15		15
	Public Participation and Negotiation Techniques		12		12
SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL					
TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL					

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<i>NCQF Level</i>	<i>Credit Value</i>
<i>7</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>8</i>	<i>112</i>
<i>TOTAL CREDITS</i>	<i>124</i>
Rules of Combination: <i>(Please Indicate combinations for the different constituent components of the qualification)</i>	
<p>The <i>Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Urban and Regional Planning</i> is earned through accumulation of 12 credits from fundamental, 100 credits from Core and 12 credits from electives, making a total of 124 credits minimum.</p>	

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Requirements and weightings: generally, 60% Formative and 40% Summative.

MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS

Internal moderation requirements:

Internal moderation will be carried out by BQA Registered or suitably qualified external moderators and should adhere to national/ BQA policies on the same.

External moderation requirements:

To be carried out by BQA registered or suitably qualified external moderators and should adhere to national/ BQA policies on the same.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (if applicable)

RPL for award is applicable in this qualification.

PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)

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

E.g., transfer at same level and into which particular qualification locally, regionally, and internationally.

- Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Urban and Regional Planning
- Bachelor of City Planning (Honours)
- Bachelor of Town and Regional Planning (Honours)
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Vertical Articulation (qualifications to which the holder may progress to)

- Master of Science in City and Regional Planning
- Master of Science in Housing Studies
- Master of Science in Urban Design
- Master of Science in Transport and Traffic Planning
- Master of Science in Environmental Planning and Management

- Master of Arts in Urban and Regional Planning
- Master of Arts in Spatial Planning
- Master of Arts in Urban Development
- Master of Science in Sustainable Place Making and Urban Design
- Master of Science in International Planning
- Master of Science in Sustainable Urbanism
- Master of Arts in Urban Studies
- Master of Science in Urban Economic Development
- Master of Project Management
- Master of Science in Urban Informatics
- Master of Philosophy in Urban and Regional Planning
- Master of Philosophy City Planning

Possible jobs or employment which the holder of this qualification may take up:

- Town Planner
- Urban Planner
- Physical Planner
- Housing and Estates Management Officer
- Land Acquisition and Development Management Officer
- Traffic and Transport Planner
- Environmental Planner
- Land Use Planner
- Urban Development Manager

QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION

Minimum standards of achievement for the award of the qualification.

The BSc (Hons) in Urban and Regional Planning will be awarded upon successful completion of 1-year full-time study, attaining a minimum of 124 credits.

Certification

Issuance of certificate upon award of the BSc (Hons) in Urban and Regional Planning qualification to successful graduates.

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

The Regional Universities that were consulted through browsing their websites are

1. University of Cape Town – Bachelor of City Planning (Hons) 1 Year Total credits 232 NQF Level 8
2. University of the Free States – Bachelor of Spatial Planning (Hons), 1 Year, Minimum Credits 140 NQF Level 8

The International Universities that were consulted through browsing their websites are:

3. The University of Queensland – Bachelor of Regional and Town Planning (Hons) 1 year, Credits 64, AQF level 8

Similarities:

- i) Tittles of the qualifications range from Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Urban and Regional Planning to Bachelor of City Planning (Hons), to Bachelor of Spatial Planning (Hons), to Bachelor of Town and Regional Planning (Hons). All qualifications tittles indicate their level as honors bachelor degrees.
- ii) All qualifications are NQF level 8.
- iii) Core courses are almost similar ranging from planning theory, infrastructure, to land use and natural resources planning, regional economic growth to urban/city design.
- iv) All domains are within the context of town planning.
- v) The duration of all the qualifications is one academic year.
- vi) All qualifications accept applicants with prior learning.
- vii) All qualifications have a research dissertation component.
- viii) For all the qualifications compared assessment is largely outcome-based. It is a combination formative and summative with more wight to the formative.
- ix) All qualifications are liable to accreditation with national and professional accreditation bodies.
- x) Employability pathways are the same as they revolve around 'space creation' within central and local government as well as nongovernmental organizations within urban design, land use planning, transport planning and regional economic development.

Differences

- i) Total number of credits differ ranging as high as 232 at the University of Cape Town to as low as 64 credits at The University of Queensland, Australia.
- ii) The nomenclature for the degree qualification differs ranged from University of Botswana's BSc (Hons) in Urban and Regional Planning, Bachelor of City Planning Honours (University of Cape Town, South Africa), Bachelor of Spatial Planning Honours (University of the Free State, South Africa), and Bachelor of Regional and Town Planning Honours (The University of Queensland, Australia).

The names of the degree in the universities that were benchmarked ranged from Bachelor of City Planning Honours (University of Cape Town, South Africa), Bachelor of Spatial Planning Honours (University of the Free State, South Africa), and Bachelor of Regional and Town Planning Honours (The University of Queensland, Australia). The duration of the qualifications is one year. The BSc (Hons) in Urban and Regional Planning in Urban and Regional Planning at University of Botswana compares well both regionally and internationally. Further study possibilities include Master of Science in Transport and Traffic Planning, Master of Science in Environmental Planning and Management, Master of Arts in Spatial Planning amongst others. Graduate of the qualification can work as town planners, urban planner, housing and estate management officer, land use planners etc.

REVIEW PERIOD

5 years