

	BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE	Document No.	DNCQF.P01.GD02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	01.08.2022

SECTION A: QUALIFICATION DETAILS															
QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER (S)			University of Botswana												
TITLE		Doctor of Philosophy in Food and Nutrition										NCQF LEVEL		10	
STRANDS (where applicable)		1. N/A 2. 3. 4.													
FIELD		Health and Social Services				SUB-FIELD		Health Science				CREDIT VALUE		360	
New Qualification								Legacy 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>There is shortage of advanced research (PhD) programs in food and nutrition in the country. Such a qualification is needed to support the country's goals and aspirations to address malnutrition in all its forms as well as to become a knowledge-based economy. Despite her low population of about 2 million, Botswana is carrying a disproportionately high burden of chronic malnutrition (29%), and nutrition related</p>															

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non-communicable diseases. The government has developed comprehensive programs for addressing these challenges; However, the challenges persist. There is need for highly qualified research professionals who will generate the evidence to inform food and nutrition programming in the country.

Research and innovation are skills that were cited as highly needed by HRDC in the country to address non-communicable diseases and food security (HRDC Priority skills 2019 report). Such skills will also enable the country to drive the food and nutrition agenda in the country and propel the country towards achieving SDGs, particularly, SDGs 1 to 3 among others. Through the application of a range of scientific methods and theoretical approaches, researchers will undertake rigorous investigations enabling them to the innovative and to generate relevant discoveries in the diverse fields of food and nutrition including the production and processing of foods.

The qualification will also address Agenda 2063 of the African Union, especially Aspiration 1 (one) on a prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development, Goal 1 (a high standard of living, quality of life and well-being for all citizens), and Goal 3 (healthy and well-nourished citizens) (African Union, 2022). The proposed qualification will contribute to local, regional and continental capacity building in food and nutrition.

PURPOSE

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

1. Demonstrate the greatest level of intellectual independence and analytical abilities in developing critical and methodical arguments and discussions in Food and Nutrition.
2. Perform independent research and training in the field of Food and Nutrition, as well as the ability to describe the findings in a scholarly manner.
3. Serve as academic leaders, experts, and advisors in Food and Nutrition.
4. Show a consistent commitment to the development of new ideas, insights, and processes in Food and Nutrition through research and high-level reflective practice.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)

The normal minimum entry requirements for admission to the PhD in Food and Nutrition qualification are:

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1. NCQF level 9 or its equivalent
2. Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) in line with institutional and national policies

SECTION B		QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION	
GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)		ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	
L01. Conduct original research and scholarship in the field of food and nutrition.		AC1.1 Use appropriate research techniques to collect, organize, analyse, and critically evaluate information. AC1.2 Relate research knowledge, skills and competences to Food and Nutrition contexts. AC1.3 Justify claims and conclusions with appropriate evidence and argument through research skills and knowledge creation. AC1.4 Evaluate appropriate theoretical and methodological frameworks in Food and Nutrition.	
L02. Apply effective research management skills in food and nutrition.		AC2.1. Manage research teams in a range of contexts. AC2.2. implement principles of project and time management. AC2.3. Mobilize resources in the context of Food and nutrition.	
L03. Communicate food and nutrition issues effectively with peers, the larger scholarly community and the society.		AC3.1 Demonstrate skills in oral and written communication. AC3.2. Prepare grant proposals. AC3.3. Disseminate work in different scholarly platforms.	
L04. Demonstrate professional development and ethical conduct in Food and Nutrition.		AC 4.1. Exhibit professional self-confidence. AC 4.2. Serve as a good role model. AC 4.3. Work cooperatively with others.	
L05. Think critically and solve problems in food and nutrition.		AC5.1 Demonstrate the ability to generate, evaluate and analyze new knowledge and innovation. AC5.2 Synthesise accounts of scholarly work in an area of study in Food and Nutrition. AC5.3 Assess theoretical positions and proffer solutions to problems.	

SECTION C	QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE
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COMPONENT	TITLE	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total Credits
		Level []	Level []	Level []	
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units	Research Proposal			Level 10	180
CORE COMPONENT Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units	Research Thesis			Level 10	180
STRANDS/ SPECIALIZATION	Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total Credits
		Level []	Level []	Level []	
1.					
2.					

SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL

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TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL	
NCQF Level 10	360
TOTAL CREDITS	360

Rules of Combination:

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

The normal duration of this qualification shall be in accordance with General Regulations Specific to Doctor of Philosophy qualifications:

- A minimum of 3 to a maximum of 4 years on a full-time basis
- A minimum of 4 to a maximum of 8 years on a part-time basis

The normal workload for a Doctor of Philosophy in Food and Nutrition shall be 360 credits.

Proposal – 180 credits
Dissertation – 180 credits
Total = 360 credits

The qualification shall consist of a supervised research proposal and a supervised thesis.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

- Assessment will include both formative and summative modes.
- Assessment will be carried out by registered and accredited assessors and moderators.

Formative Assessment (40% weighting)


Formative assessment will contribute 40% of the overall course grade.

Summative Assessment (60% weighting)

Summative assessment will contribute 60% of the overall course grade.

MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS

There shall be both internal and external moderation processes in accordance with institutional and national policies. Moderators and assessors will be registered by BQA or any relevant bodies.

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RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

Doctor of Philosophy in Food and Nutrition is designed to allow award through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) in accordance with Institutional and National RPL policies.

CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER

Credit Accumulation Transfer (CAT) for the award of this qualification will be in accordance with Institutional and National RPL policies.

PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)

Horizontal Articulation

- Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health Nutrition
- Doctor of Philosophy in Food Management
- Doctor of Philosophy in Food Science
- Doctor of Philosophy in Culinary Arts
- Doctor of Philosophy in Dietetics

Vertical Articulation

- Post-doctorate in food and nutrition or related fields

Employment Pathways


- Researchers
- Food and Nutrition Educators
- Extension workers
- Consultants
- Food and Nutrition Policymakers
- Quality Managers
- Food and Nutrition Regulatory Affairs officers
- Food Product/Process Development Officers

QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION

Qualification Award

To be awarded the Doctor of Philosophy in Food and Nutrition qualification, a candidate is required to achieve a minimum of 360 credits.

Certification Award

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Candidates meeting prescribed requirements will be awarded a Doctor of Philosophy in Food and Nutrition and will be issued a certificate and an official transcript.

SUMMARY OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

The proposed qualification generally compares well with the qualifications offered at the University of Pretoria and Durban University of Technology in South Africa. The NQF level, exit level outcomes, and assessment structure are similar to that of the South African universities. Internationally the qualification is similar to the University of Reading, UK's Ph.D./MPhil Food and Nutritional Sciences and Newcastle University's Food and Human Nutrition MPhil/PHD in terms of structure, delivery and assessment. This also applies to the competencies required for registration and accreditation with professional bodies. Additionally, the duration of the proposed qualification is a minimum of 3-4 years, which is comparable to that of other Universities.

Differences:

Although the qualifications examined generally follow similar structures and standards, there are minor differences. The assessment structure of the University of Botswana's Doctor of Philosophy in Food and Nutrition qualification has different assessment options which include the thesis, publication and the publication/thesis routes. Further, the University of Botswana's qualification covers a wide range of research areas from food management or culinary arts to human nutrition, to food product development which caters for the diverse food and nutrition specialists in the field. Additionally, the nomenclature of the qualification differs slightly across the universities. The University of Botswana offers a Doctor of Philosophy qualification while other universities offer MPhil/PhD qualifications, giving students an option to be awarded the MPhil or PhD qualification.

REVIEW PERIOD

The qualification will be reviewed after every 5 years.