

Document No.	DNCQF.QIDD.GD02
Issue No.	01
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SECTION A: QUALIFICATION DETAILS															
QUALIFICATION	QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER (S) University of Botswana														
TITLE	Master of Nursing Science in Psychiatric-Mental Health  NCQF LEVEL					9									
FIELD	Health and Social SUB- Services			B-FII	Health Science			CREDIT	T VA	ALUE	264				
New Qualification				V	-	Review of Existing Qualification									
SUB-FRAMEWORK General			eral Ed	duca		_	TVET Hig			Highe	r Ea	lucation	<b>V</b>		
QUALIFICATION TYPE	Certifica	te l		11		III		IV		V		Diploma		Bachel or	
	Bachelor Hono			rs Post Graduate C		ıate Certificate		Post Graduate Diploma							
	٨			Masters				$\sqrt{}$		Doctorate/ PhD					

## RATIONALE AND PURPOSE OF THE QUALIFICATION

## RATIONALE:

The challenges presented by the ever-transforming health care environment in Botswana such as high use of psychoactive substances, transformation of the family structure and increasing cultural diversities of the population has an impact on one's mental wellbeing. Mental health is also affected by knowledge explosion and widening use of social media along with its related impact on human relations, emergence of new diseases and their accompanying psychosocial implications. The emergence of new health care technologies require that nursing education prepare nurse graduate who can be able to provide leadership not only in preventing the impact of such challenges on the mental health of populations but also in mitigating, negotiating, and managing them.

World Health Organization recommends that mental health care should be part of or integrated into primary health care. The purpose of the qualification is therefore to develop master's prepared psychiatric-mental health nurse graduates with expert competencies in planning, implementation, and evaluation of evidence-



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based preventive and therapeutic psychiatric-mental care to individuals, families and identified population groups. Therapeutic relationship is considered the corner stone for psychiatric mental health nursing.

Human Resource Development Council [HRDC] (2016) report identifies nurse specialists as one of the occupations in high demand, hence this review. Mental health is crucial to the well-being of individuals, societies, and countries. Graduates will be exposed to several courses such as Theory Development in Nursing, Research Methods, Advanced Psychopathology, Psychotherapeutic Modalities, and will have supervised practice experiences in client care and system dynamics, etc. The skills are necessary for providing guidance in the intersection of mental health and other areas of health care; provide leadership in integrating knowledge from nursing and fields outside nursing and contribute to mental health policy development and implementation. The primary health care approach that the Botswana Health Care Policy has adopted calls for personal and community responsibility for health care. Masters prepared psychiatric-mental health nurses play an important role in negotiating healthy lifestyles with individuals and population groups. Botswana's National Human Resources Development Strategy 2009-2020 asserts that tertiary education with strong theoretical foundation and advanced research is necessary as it enables the graduates to meaningfully contribute to the development of a globally connected prosperous nation (Botswana Ministry of Education and Skills Development, 2009).

#### **PURPOSE:**

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

- Build collaborative partnerships within the health care teams.
- Provide evidence informed psychiatric-mental health nursing practice.
- Mentor a culture of life-long learning and innovation in psychiatric-mental health nursing.
- Evaluate, conduct, and disseminate research, using evidence-based practice to analyze situations.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)

- The candidate should have a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing at NCQF 7 or equivalent.
- There is a provision for entry through Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) in accordance with institutional policies and in line with national RPL and CAT policies.
- In addition to one of the above, the candidate must also have a current and active certificate of registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Botswana.



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SECTION B QUALIFICA	ATION SPECIFICATION			
GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA			
Provide preventive, promotive, therapeutic, and rehabilitative mental health services that are culturally sensitive to a diverse population in a rapidly changing society	<ol> <li>1.1 Apply knowledge of theories to provide culturally sensitive comprehensive psychiatric mental health services to individuals, families, and communities.</li> <li>1.2 Conduct assessments to identify health problems, intervene appropriately and evaluate psychiatricmental health care outcomes for different population groups across the life span.</li> <li>1.3 Use ethical reasoning, and problem-solving strategies to provide culturally responsive and quality psychiatric-mental health interventions for clients in a variety of settings.</li> <li>1.4 Demonstrate core competencies of i) patient-centered care, ii) inter-professional collaboration, iii) evidence-based practice, iv) quality improvement, and v) utilization of informatics in the delivery of nursing care.</li> <li>1.5 Apply culturally appropriate concepts in the planning, delivery, management, and evaluation of evidence-based psychiatric-mental health promotion, prevention for individuals, families, and population groups.</li> <li>1.6 Demonstrate ability to support lifelong learning to improve psychiatric mental health care decisions.</li> </ol>			



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2.	Demonstrate knowledge of selected nursing theories and counselling theories in promoting mental health.	1.7 Mentor junior colleagues in the delivery of evidence-based care and decision making.      2.1 Apply knowledge of selected counselling theories to promote mental health of individuals, families, groups, and communities in a variety of settings.      2.2 Utilize counselling skills to promote sustainable positive behaviour change of individuals, families, and groups
		2.3 Examine nursing and non-nursing theories in influencing mental health care policy, improving nursing care and care outcome, and reducing the cost of care.
3.	Apply principles of primary health care, to ensure holistic psychiatric-mental health care for individuals, families, and communities.	<ul> <li>3.1 Identify mental health problems and issues in primary health care settings.</li> <li>3.2 Demonstrate knowledge of biological, socio-cultural, political, and economic factors that have a bearing on the mental health of a community.</li> <li>3.3 Participate in collaborative teams to improve primary health care outcomes and to support policy changes through knowledge generation, dissemination, planning, implementation, and evaluation.</li> <li>3.4 Develop, implement, and evaluate age-appropriate health screening and mental health promotion programs.</li> </ul>
4.	Demonstrate mastery of therapeutic communication skills in the provision of psychiatric mental health care to individuals, families, and communities.	4.1 Use effective communication skills to assist clients in identifying and solving their mental health problems.  4.2 Demonstrate mastery of communication skills appropriate for health care delivery, professional writing and public speaking.
5.	Provide leadership in collaborative teams to improve psychiatric-mental health care outcomes and to support policy changes through knowledge.	5.1 Contribute to design interventions, standards, and quality assurance tools related to psychiatric-mental health nursing, as well as in application of quality principles within an organization.



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	5.2 Demonstrate competency to participate in policy development to influence psychiatric-mental health nursing.
	5.3 Collaborate and consult with other health professionals to manage and coordinate psychiatric-mental health care.
	5.4 Design and manage projects that promote mental health.
	5.5 Develop an appropriate network community and exchange of ideas.
	5.6 Demonstrate best practices and evidence-based practice nationally, regionally, and internationally to promote psychiatric-mental health nursing.
Utilize appropriate technology to enhance proficiency and quality in psychiatric mental	6.1 Use communication technologies to integrate and coordinate psychiatric-mental health care.
health practice	6.2 Use patient-care technologies to enhance quality of care.
	6.3 Evaluate the use of health care technology in diagnostic, educational, and therapeutic interventions.
	6.4 Use computerized health information systems in psychiatric-mental health nursing education, practice, administration, and research.
	6.5 Design and implement education programs for cohorts of patients, students, or other healthcare providers using information and communication technologies.
	6.6 Apply knowledge from information sciences, health communication, and health to provide psychiatric-mental health care to multiple populations.
7. Conduct research on clinical problems,	7.1 Apply concepts and principles of research process.
critically evaluate research studies, disseminate findings, and use evidence to inform care improvement.	7.2 Demonstrate ethical conduct of research and translational scholarship with particular attention to the protection of the client as a research participant.



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7.3 Demonstrate understanding of the process involved in dissemination of research findings.
7.4 Identify published intervention approaches that have contextual relevance and use such to inform changes in psychiatric-mental health care improvement.
7.5 Integrate scientific findings from nursing, bio- psychosocial fields, genetics, public health, quality improvement, and organizational sciences for the continual improvement of psychiatric-mental health nursing care across diverse settings.
7.6 Analyse and critique literature and public policies relevant to the psychiatric-mental health care of population groups in specialty area.



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SECTION C	QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE				
COMPONENT	TITLE	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total (Per Subject/ Course/ Module/Units)
		Level [ ]	Level[]	Level [9]	
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing			12	12
Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units	Research Methods			12	12
	Medical Statistics			12	12
CORE COMPONENT	Research Thesis /Dissertation			80	80
Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units	Advanced Pathophysiology			12	12
	Trends in Psychotherapeutic Modalities			12	12
	Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing			12	12
	Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing practice			15	15
	Adult and Older Adult Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing			12	12



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	Adult and Older Adult Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing practice	15	15
	Internship	34	34
ELECTIVE/ OPTIONAL COMPONENT	Advanced Concepts in Professional Nursing	12	12
Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units	Health Policy and Health Service Management	12	12
	Gender and Health Education	12	12
	Ethics and Law in Health Care	12	12
	Health Assessment and Risk Reduction in Schools	12	12
	Project Development	12	12
	Entrepreneurship	12	12
	Health Informatics	12	12
	Health Promotion Across the Life Span	12	12



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SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL		
TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL		
NCQF Level	Credit Value	
Fundamental Component	36	
Core Component	192	
Elective/ Optional Component	36	
TOTAL CREDITS	264	

# Rules of Combination:

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

A candidate is required to achieve a minimum of 264 credits. This includes:

- 36 credits of Fundamental Courses 13.6%
- 192 credits of psychiatric mental health nursing core including internship and research (Theory 128 credits Practicum 64 credits) 72.8%
- 36 credits for Optional courses and Elective 13.6%

# NB

% Supervised Research = 80/264 = 30% (Required=25% minimum)

Total credit load for Full time and Part time = 264 (NORMAL RANGE= 240+) +10%

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## ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

All assessments which are leading to the award of the qualification should be based on learning outcomes and assessment criteria. Theory (continuous assessment) and practice shall be weighed on a ratio of 60:40. The rationale is that at a master's level, students practice should be theory and evidence- based. Assessment will be carried out by BQA accredited assessors.

## The following pass mark shall apply:

Theory- 25%

Practicum- 75%

## **MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS**

Internal and external moderation shall apply in accordance with applicable policies and regulations and moderation will be carried out by BQA accredited moderators.

## RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

There is provision to award this qualification through RPL in accordance with the institutional RPL policy and regulation which are in alignment with the National RPL policy.

### CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER

There is possibility for award of the qualification through Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) and in line with national CAT policies

## PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)

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

- Master of Science Nursing Science (Midwifery)
- Master of Science Nursing Science (Adult Health Nursing)
- Master of Science Nursing Science (Family Nurse Practitioner)
- Master of Science Nursing Science (Child and Adolescent Nursing)
- Master of Science Nursing Science (Community Health Nursing)
- Master of Science Nursing Administration
- Master of Public Health
- Master of Science Nursing Education
- Master of Counselling



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

- Doctor of Philosophy in nursing
- Doctor of Nursing Science

Employment Pathways

Psychiatric Mental Health Care Nurses typically work in the following Career Sectors:

- Professional psychiatric mental health nurse
- Psychiatric mental health nurse educator
- Psychiatric mental nurse researcher
- Psychiatric mental health nurse counsellor
- Community psychiatric mental health nurse
- Psychiatric mental health nurse case manager

### **QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION**

## Minimum standards of achievement for the award of the qualification

To be awarded Master of Nursing Science in Psychiatric-Mental Health qualification, candidates must meet a minimum of 264 credits.

There is no compensatory award for early exit.

### REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

The qualification compares regionally with the University of Free State (248 credits) and the University of Johannesburg (180 credits). The modes of assessment for the qualifications are similar, i.e. summative and formative. For all the qualifications, students must have completed coursework clinical attachments, research essays, and passed both the theoretical and practical examinations. One of the requirements for entry to the proposed qualification is an active certificate of registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Botswana. Similarly South African universities require students to adhere to the standards of accreditation and regulation bodies which includes the South African Nursing Council.

Internationally, the qualification compares with the Edge Hill University in the United Kingdom which is a 2-year full-time qualification with 180 credits and Australian Catholic University which is a one and half years qualification with 120 credits. The modes of assessments for the two qualification include research project, written tests and end-of-year written examinations. In addition, students must comply with the university rules and regulations and accreditation bodies' requirements including the nursing council.



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## **Summary of Similarities and differences**

For all modules, the domains covered are psychiatric disorders according to an acknowledged classification system, pharmaco-therapeutic principles, counselling and crisis intervention, individual, family and group psychotherapy, research methodology and mini dissertation.

Although the qualification compares well with other universities in the region, there are some differences noted, in terms of total number of credits- University of Free State (248 credits), University of Johannesburg (180 credits). Internationally, Edge Hill University has 180 credits and Australian Catholic University has 120 credits. However, the credits fall within the acceptable range of master s' qualification. The other difference is the entry qualification, which is either an undergraduate or honours degree.

# Comparability and articulation of the proposed qualifications with ones examined

Overall, the qualification compares well with other universities in the region and internationally, satisfy the registration requirements of the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Botswana and it is in line with BQA notional credits for a Masters' qualification and exit level descriptors typical of this level and type of qualification.

### REVIEW PERIOD

The qualification will be reviewed after five (5) years