
	<b>BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE</b>	Document No.	DNCQF.QIDD.GD02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	04/02/2020

SECTION A: QUALIFICATION DETAILS																	
<b>QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER</b>				University of Botswana													
<b>TITLE</b>		Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing						<b>NCQF LEVEL</b>		10							
<b>FIELD</b>		Health and Social Services		<b>SUB-FIELD</b>		Health Sciences		<b>CREDIT VALUE</b>		386							
New Qualification						✓		Review of Existing Qualification									
<b>SUB-FRAMEWORK</b>		General Education						TVET				Higher Education		✓			
<b>QUALIFICATION TYPE</b>		Certificate		I		II		III		IV		V		Diplo ma		Bachelo r	
		Bachelor Honours						Post Graduate Certificate						Post Graduate Diploma			
		Masters								Doctorate/ PhD				✓			

## RATIONALE AND PURPOSE OF THE QUALIFICATION

### RATIONALE:

Botswana is experiencing a high burden of health problems and currently, emerging epidemics such as non-communicable diseases, substance abuse problems and pandemics. These conditions create numerous health problems in our communities and the nation at large and place a considerable burden on the economy. Therefore, there is a need to address the situation through research interventions and enable evidence based care. Only scholars and clinicians in nursing prepared at the doctoral level are capable of producing scientific knowledge which can solve the country 's health problems. There are limited numbers of scientists prepared at this level in the country (15 at the most) out of which 5 of them have retired and about half will also soon retire as well. Thus the country needs graduates prepared at this level if nursing too is to participate in the development of knowledge economy. Finding admission for these candidates in other countries is very competitive and limited in terms of cost and securing of admission. Thus development of a home grown programme will not only improve accessibility but will also cut on the exorbitant costs incurred. The National Development Plan 11 (2017 – 2023) calls for improvement of quality health care services through strengthened human capital. Human Resource Development Council (HRDC) Strategy (2016), indicates that advancing the education and numbers of

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professional nurses is one of the most important human resource priorities in Botswana. The World Health Organization Global Strategic Directions for Strengthening Nursing and Midwifery (2016 – 2020) has set goals focused on ensuring an educated, competent and motivated nursing and midwifery workforce capable of advancing the development of knowledge in the discipline of nursing.

#### **PURPOSE:**


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

- Conduct original scholarly research that will inform generation of solutions to complex and unpredictable nursing problems.
- Assume leadership in the conduct of culturally and linguistically appropriate scholarship.
- Lead in advancing the discipline through scholarly contributions and the development of nursing science in the global community.
- Generate and disseminate knowledge relevant to health care policy.
- Communicate research through publications and presentations to professionals, interdisciplinary and other stakeholders.


#### **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)**

- A Master's Degree in the same or a cognate field of study. NCQF Level 9
- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) will be considered for access and inclusion using the relevant institutional policies inline with national RPL and CAT policies.


<b>SECTION B QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION</b>	
<b>GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)</b>	<b>ASSESSMENT CRITERIA</b>
1. Analyse theoretical knowledge to provide the foundation for professional development of the nursing discipline	1.1 Analyse and synthesize existing literature to ensure relevance in the discipline of nursing  1.2 Examine the relationships among nursing theory, research, scientific advances and evidence-based practice

 <b>BOTSWANA</b> Qualifications Authority	<b>BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE</b>	Document No.	DNCQF.QIDD. GD02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	04/02/2020


	1.3 Apply theory from nursing and other disciplines to guide decision making and quality improvement in nursing practice, education and research 1.4 Analyse the utility of concept and theory development in nursing. 1.5 Develop theories and frameworks which can be utilized in the provision of care.
2. Critically examine philosophical viewpoints and their relevance to the discipline	2.1. Examine the different philosophic viewpoints and their relevance to knowledge development and research 2.2. Select philosophic standpoints that fit with own context and within the discipline of nursing 2.3. Identify ways of explanations that fit within the cultural, socio-political, scientific, and economic conditions of the contextual environment.
3. Lead in advancing the discipline through scholarly contributions and science in the global community	3.1 Conduct comprehensive literature review and analysis to identify gaps warranting further research investigations 3.2 Write research grant proposals for funding and implementation 3.3 Apply theory to advance research methodologies to contribute to knowledge development in nursing 3.4 Conduct responsible science by observing ethical principles in research 3.5 Utilize appropriate technologies and techniques in data collection and

 <b>BOTSWANA</b> Qualifications Authority	<b>BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE</b>	Document No.	DNCQF.QIDD. GD02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	04/02/2020


	analysis 3.6 Synthesize and interpret research findings. 3.7 Translate research and evidence-based interventions to actual practice to influence client outcomes
4. Provide career and research mentorship	4.1 Publish and present scholarly papers with others 4.2 Forge research partnerships with other scholars to advance science and scholarship 4.3 Create opportunities for growth and creative thinking 4.4 Facilitate personal and professional growth of individuals 4.5 Provide constructive feedback 4.6 Participate in research collaborative partnerships 4.7 Participate in research networks within and outside own setting in order to share research information and knowledge
5. Assume leadership in the conduct of culturally and linguistically appropriate scholarship	5.1 Observe ethical codes and legal guidelines in the conduct of responsible science 5.2 Promote advocacy for protection of human subjects
6. Lead interdisciplinary research teams and participate in implementation science	6.1 Guide and supervise undergraduate and graduate research 6.2 Utilize evidence generated from research to improve nursing practice, education and policy 6.3 Develop interventions to address complex health issues

 <b>BOTSWANA</b> Qualifications Authority	<b>BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE</b>	Document No.	DNCQF.QIDD. GD02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	04/02/2020


SECTION C		QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE			
COMPONENT	TITLE	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total (Per Subject/ Course/ Module/ Units)
		Level [ ]	Level [ ]	Level [10 ]	
<b>FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT</b> Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units	Philosophical Perspectives and Theory Development in Nursing			<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>
	Advance Social Science Research Methods course.			<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>CORE COMPONENT</b> Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units	Thesis/dissertation			<b>352</b>	<b>352</b>
					<b>386</b>

	<b>BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE</b>	Document No.	DNCQF.QIDD. GD02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	04/02/2020

SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL		
TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL		
NCQF Level	Credit Value	
Level 10	386	
TOTAL CREDITS	386	
Rules of Combination:		
(Please Indicate combinations for the different constituent components of the qualification)		
Fundermetal	Level 10	34 Credits
Core	Level 10	352 Credits
Total		386 Credits
There are no electives in this qualification.		

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		Issue No.	01
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<b>ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formative 20%</li> <li>Summative (Research and theseis) 80%</li> <li>Candidates will be required to publish at least one peer reviewed journal article.</li> <li>Assessment must be conducted by suitably qualified person(s) in the filed of Nursing, preferably with a PhD.</li> </ul>
<b>MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS</b>
There will be internal and external moderation as a quality assurance measure. Morderation must be conducted by suitably qualified person(s) in the field of nursing.
<b>RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING</b>
Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) will be considered for award according to relevant policies in line with national RPL policy.
<b>CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER</b>
CAT will be considered for award according to relevant policies in line with national CAT policy.
<b>PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)</b>
<b>Learning Pathways (Horizontal)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Doctor of Nursing Science</li> <li>Doctor of Nursing Practice</li> </ul> <b>Employment Pathways</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Researchers</li> <li>Policy developers</li> <li>Nursing Academics</li> <li>Policy analysits</li> <li>Clinical consultants</li> </ul>
<b>QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION</b>

	<b>BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE</b>	Document No.	DNCQF.QIDD.GD02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	04/02/2020

Candidates meeting prescribed requirements will be awarded the qualification in accordance with standards prescribed for the award of the qualification and applicable policies.

Candidates are required to achieve a minimum of **386** credits and to have published at least one journal article in a peer reviewed journal to be awarded Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing.


#### REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

The Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing qualification was benchmarked with several qualifications in the region such as the Universities of Stellenbosch, Fort Hare, Zululand, Western Cape and Cape Town and internationally with the Victoria University of Wellington Australia, University of California San Francisco and the University of Pennsylvania. From that exercise a lot of similarities and differences were noted whereby at Fort Hare University and University of Cape Town the qualification is a Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing. All other universities have Doctor of Nursing degree. Although the names of the qualification differs slightly, the NQF level (Level 10) and credit value is more or less the same (360 credits) as this qualification.

Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing is a 4 year fulltime and 6 years parttime qualification. The qualification structure composes of fundamental and core worth 386 credits. This qualification exceeds the credits (360) stipulated in those qualifications that it is being compared with because of the two modules in research and philosophy to be offered to prepare our graduates to develop skills in knowledge development making total credits 386 instead of 360.

The exit outcomes at the University of Stellenbosch are comparable to those in the proposed Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing qualification in terms of focusing on the research and development of science and knowledge. All of the programmes in the universities mentioned are thesis-based. The University of Stellenbosch added a component of care and service whereas the proposed qualification focuses more on research and knowledge development. The Universities of Fort Hare, Zululand and Western Cape focus more on clinical and consultant roles, although the research component comes out strongly in the assessment criteria, culminating in the development and successful thesis/dissertation defense. Victoria University of Wellington offers includes course work and thesis and some



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		Effective Date	04/02/2020

clinical focus area.
<b>REVIEW PERIOD</b>
The qualification to be reviewed every five (5) years in line with the NCQF.