BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE

SECTION A:	QUALIFICATION DETAILS		
QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER (S)	University of Botswana		
TITLE	Master of Philosophy in Architecture	**NCQF LEVEL**	9
STRANDS (where applicable)	N/A		
FIELD	Physical Planning and Construction	**CREDIT VALUE**	240
SUB FIELD	Architecture		

New Qualification		Legacy Qualification	√	Renewal Qualification	
				Registration Code	

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

RATIONALE:

The qualification has been designed to respond to Botswana's social and economic needs and that of the region, especially in engineering and built environment areas. It is aligned to the key strategic sectors of manufacturing, construction, built environment, creative industries, research, innovation, science, and technology identified by the Human Resource Development Council, which requires a high workforce demand to transform Botswana into a knowledge-based and circular economy. The qualification's core mandate is to produce researchers in Architecture and the broader built environment fields. The qualification contributes toward the strategic role of meeting the country's development needs through advancing human resource development and developing research and innovation capacity (Towards a Knowledge Society. Tertiary Education Policy, 2010; Revised National

Policy of Education 1994; National Human Resource Development Plan, 2009-2022; Education and Training Sector Strategic Plan, 2015; National Development Plan 11, 2017 and HRDC, 2023 top occupations priority area - manufacturing). Furthermore, this qualification is commensurate with three pillars of Vision 2036: 'sustainable economic development, human and social development, and sustainable environment' and key future imperatives of research, innovation, and sustainability.

PURPOSE: (itemise exit level outcomes)

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

1. Carry out independent analytical research in the architecture and the built environment.
2. Develop and present a research output to a diverse audience, including the private and public sectors, community members, Non-Governmental Organisations, and policymakers.
3. Apply transferable skills, including teamwork, problem-solving, presentation, communication, analytical and critical thinking, as well as perseverance, in both academic and professional contexts.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)

The standard requirements for entrance to the Master of Philosophy degree qualification shall be:

- Bachelor's Degree, NCQF Level 7 or equivalent.
- Recognition of prior learning and credit accumulation and transfer shall be considered.

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SECTION B	QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION
GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)	***ASSESSMENT CRITERIA***
1. Develop an original research proposal in the field of Architecture that advances the discipline	1.1 Develop a research proposal within a specific field of study related to Architecture. 1.2 Conduct a critical literature review to identify a gap(s) in knowledge, either in theory or practice. 1.3 Formulate a research proposal to contribute to the body of knowledge in Architecture based on the knowledge gap identified in and/or supported by the literature. 1.4 Defend a research proposal in a colloquium/research seminar/conference made up of a panel of subject experts.
2. Apply advanced research methods in architecture to conduct rigorous, evidence-based research and contribute to academic and professional discourse.	2.1 Develop appropriate data collection methods and instruments. 2.2 Conduct data analysis of the data collected through fieldwork, experiments, etc. 2.3 Critique the collected data against the existing body of knowledge.
3. Communicate complex architectural ideas and research findings to academic, professional, and public audiences through written, visual, and oral presentations.	3.1 Defend the results of research analysis in a panel of experts (e.g. colloquia, conferences). 3.2 Author research papers publishable in recognised journals. 3.3 Explain results and implications to community members and policymakers. 3.4 Write simplified briefing notes, abstracts etc, for non-expert audiences.

4. Integrate principles of sustainability and ethical responsibility into architectural practice and research, promoting long-term environmental and societal well-being	4.1 Maintain the highest standards of academic and professional integrity. 4.2 Observe ethical codes and legal guidelines in conducting responsible scientific research and implementing projects. 4.3 Demonstrate a work ethic that shows responsibility and accountability towards the client, community and/or employer.
5. Utilize knowledge from fields such as engineering, urban planning, and social sciences, collaborating across disciplines to inform architectural research and practice.	5.1 Publish research article/s in a peer-reviewed journal from the research findings. 5.2 Generate and present scientific outputs and reports in conferences, seminars, or workshops. 5.3 Prepare for an early academic or senior position in the industry.
6. Lead and guide innovative architectural design solutions teams that respond to complex environmental, social, and technological challenges	6.1 Collaborate with other researchers, educators, and stakeholders in innovative architectural design research 6.2 Conduct research projects, organise conferences or workshops, or work with industry partners to bridge the gap between academia and practice. 6.3 Participate in key stakeholder engagements (conferences, seminars, workshops, policy forums 6.4 Serve in corporate and national task forces or technical boards/committees.

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SECTION C	QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE				
COMPONENT	TITLE	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total Credits
		Level [8]	Level [9]	Level [ ]	
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units	Research Methods		30		**30**
CORE COMPONENT Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units	Research Proposal		**60**		**60**
	Journal Article		**30**		**30**
	Thesis for Master of Philosophy in Architecture		**120**		**120**
STRANDS/ SPECIALIZATION	Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total Credits
		Level [ ]	Level [ ]	Level [ ]	
1.					

2.					
Electives					

SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL	
TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL	
NCQF Level	**Credit Value**
9	**240**
TOTAL CREDITS	**240**

Rules of Combination:

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

A candidate will obtain the qualification by:

i. Completing the fundamental coursework (research methods module - 30 credits) and Core coursework (research proposal - 60 credits and a dissertation - 120 credits).

ii. Publishing at least one (1) journal article in reputable journals recognised by the University (30 Credits).

Total credits: 240

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ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

All assessments, formative and summative, leading/contributing to the award of credits or qualifications should be based on learning outcomes.

Formative assessment

Formative assessment (proposal defence) will contribute 38% towards the award of the final standing.

Summative assessment

Summative assessment will contribute 62% to the final standing.

MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS

The qualification shall have internal and external moderation following applicable policies and regulations for quality assurance to ensure fairness, validity, reliability, and consistency of assessments. The moderators shall be qualified in architecture with a doctoral degree.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

Learners may submit evidence of prior learning and current competence and/or undergo appropriate forms of RPL assessment for the award of credits towards the qualification in accordance with applicable RPL policy and relevant national-level policy and legislative framework

CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER

Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) shall be applied in accordance with Institutional and National Policies on CAT.

PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)

Horizontal Articulation

- Master of Philosophy in Conservation of the Built Environment
- Master of Philosophy in Architecture and Urban Studies
- Master of Philosophy in Planning, Growth and Regeneration

Vertical Articulation (NCQF Level 10)

- Doctor of Philosophy in Architecture
- Doctor of Philosophy in Urban Design and Planning
- Doctor of Philosophy in Urban and Regional Planning

Employment

- Building Architects
- Architectural Researchers

QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION

Minimum standards of achievement for the award of the qualification

To be awarded a Master of Philosophy in Architecture a candidate should have satisfied all exit learning outcomes and met the minimum credit requirements (240 credits), fundamental and core components as indicated in the qualification structure.

Certification

For a candidate to be awarded a Master of Philosophy in Architecture qualification, he/she should have achieved a minimum of 240 credits. After satisfying all the requirements, a learner will be awarded a Master of Philosophy in Architecture certificate.

SUMMARY OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

This qualification is aligned with equivalent qualifications awarded elsewhere in the region and internationally with respect to exit outcomes, content, assessments, and qualification rules. Some notable points of comparison are summarised below from three (3) qualifications; one regionally in

South Africa (University of Cape Town), and two international universities in the United Kingdom (University of Cambridge), and Australia (University of Sydney)

The learning domains are knowledge, skills, and competence.

Similarities

- The titles of the qualifications are similar as they cover the same scope
- Admission into an MPhil degree requires a minimum of a bachelor's degree.
- The qualifications offer both full time and part time study
- The modules are similar in that research isa predominant required component
- Employment pathways for all qualifications are similar they focus on areas around the built environments and related fields.
- The main exit outcomes for all qualifications are similar and provide a solid foundation to enrol into a PhD study.
- All university require a written thesis and an oral presentation (thesis defence) as part of the assessment strategy.
- All universities require candidates to take modules, whoever modules depend on the structure of each qualification. For example, in University of Cape Town, modules are specified, while in the University of Sydney learners complete a module in research methods.
- All universities require a written dissertation for the successful completion of the studies/

Differences

- MPhil studies in the University of Cambridge is done in a year and combines both research and design as part of the assessment while the University of Cape town and the University of Botswana do not have the design component.
- The University of Cape Town offers MPhil studies through a part time route while the University of Cambridge and the University of Botswana both offer a full-time route only.
- In terms of admission into MPhil study, there are disparities in terms of the pass mark required at bachelor's degree as well as the work experience for the applicant (e.g. University of Cambridge, UK requires an Honours bachelor degree with at least second

class first division while University of Sydney, Australia requires bachelor's degree with first class or second class honours or, master's degree)

The Master of Philosophy in Built Environment (Architecture) qualification aligns well with qualifications offered in South Africa and the United Kingdom. Therefore, the qualification provides for the international mobility of graduates. It prepares graduates for research and teaching careers in higher education, government and research institutes, and industry, especially in research and development and innovation, and to pursue doctoral studies.

REVIEW PERIOD
5 years.

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For Official Use Only:

CODE (ID)			
REGISTRATION STATUS	**BQA DECISION NO.**	**REGISTRATION START DATE**	**REGISTRATION END DATE**
LAST DATE FOR ENROLMENT		**LAST DATE FOR ACHIEVEMENT**	