

SECTION A: QUALIFICATION DETAILS															
QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER (S)			University Of Botswana												
TITLE		Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology								NCQF LEVEL		9			
STRANDS (where applicable)		1. 2. 3. N/A 4.													
FIELD		Health and Social Services			SUB-FIELD			Health Sciences			CREDIT VALUE		312		
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					Y	Doctorate/ PhD							
<p align="center">Qualifications Authority</p>															
RATIONALE AND PURPOSE OF THE QUALIFICATION															
<p>RATIONALE:</p> <p>There are a number of factors that necessitate the development and running of an MA Clinical Psychology programme in Botswana. First, the Global Disease Burden report in 2010 first raised the alarm of the rise in mental and substance use disorders in sub-Saharan Africa and the potential negative impact that this would have on the healthcare system (Charlson et al., 2014). Furthermore, the demand for mental healthcare was predicted to exceed the workforce. The 2020 report indicates a more pressing need, with a steep rise in the levels of disability due to mental illness, with depression, anxiety, and self-harm being the biggest contributors to years living with disability (Vos et al., 2020). More staggering is that the trend is across the lifespan from teenage years into old age. Low –and</p>															

middle-income countries (LMIC's) face a disproportionate burden of dementia. By 2050, an estimated 70% of all dementia diagnoses will occur in LMICs (ref) and the need for trained psychologists and other mental health providers will rapidly grow.

Looking at Botswana more specifically, the estimated proportion of life years that is attributed to living with different disabilities (including mental health issues) is 15% - 19% (Vos et al., 2020). Thus, there is a growing need for mental health services in Botswana (Sidandi et al., 2011; van Rensburg & Fourie, 2016). For instance, schizophrenia, epilepsy, HIV-related mental health issues, trauma and stress-related disorders, substance use disorders (alcohol use disorders and cannabis-induced disorders), depression, work-related mental health issues, child and adolescent mental health issues, and gender-based violence have been found to be some of the major mental health concerns in Botswana (Opondo et al., 2020; Sidandi et al., 2011). This statistic is concerning given the overall lack of mental health resources in Botswana, where the World Health Organisation (2013) estimated that LMICc spent 1.9% of their overall health budget on mental health resources. Adding to the need to increase local mental health resources is that the progression and control of other diseases, such as HIV, is impacted by mental health (World Health Organisation, 2013). The current state of mental health in Botswana, therefore, requires that there must be an adequate supply of well-trained mental health workers including clinical psychologists. Thus, this current situation necessitates the development and running of a graduate programme in psychology (clinical psychology) to respond to the national need.

The Human Resource Development Council of Botswana (HRDC, 2019) has identified psychology profession among the priority areas in the health sector in its 2019 Priority Skills and Employment Trend Report. This requires that graduate programmes in psychology need to be developed to respond to national employment priority in order to provide the comprehensive healthcare envisaged in the health sector of Botswana. It was against the background of the rising need for mental health services that the HRDC identified psychology as a priority occupation in line with the development goals of the country (HRDC, 2019). Related to the above, full registration as a professional psychologist in Botswana is overseen by the Botswana Health Professions Council (BHPC) and requirements for licensure and practice include a master's degree and completion of at least 12 months of supervised internship. Due to the lack of a system and paid human resources for BHPC to accredit internship sites and supervise internships, the Psychology Board of BHPC stipulates that the internship should be incorporated into the NCQF Level 9 qualifications. This leads to a situation where the credit value for

the qualification exceeds the normal threshold of an NCQF Level 9 qualification. Currently, undergraduate degree holders in psychology in Botswana are not registrable under the BHPC Act. As a result, there is an urgent need to develop and run a graduate programme in clinical psychology if we are to respond to the national priority in the health sector.

PURPOSE: (itemise exit level outcomes)

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

- Analyse advanced theories in case formulation and assessment.
- Apply knowledge and skills in ethical, legal, and professional matters.
- Conduct clinical practice in a professional manner.
- Conduct Clinical Assessment for diagnosis and evaluation.
- Conduct Research on health-related issues from a psychological perspective.
- Apply effective clinical interventions for treatment and prevention.
- Apply clinical psychology knowledge to develop value-added services for improved mental health in Botswana.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)

1. NCQF Level 7 in Psychology and related disciplines.
2. RPL and CAT are applicable in accordance with the ETP's policies.

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SECTION B	
QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION	
GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
1. Analyse advanced theories in case formulation and assessment.	1.1 Analyse the key issues in psychological measurement and assessment such as validity, reliability, standardisation, culture bias in psychological testing. 1.2 Demonstrate knowledge of ethical codes, principles, and issues in Clinical psychology. 1.3 Demonstrate knowledge of Counselling skills as well as psychotherapy processes and procedures. 1.4 Analyse the major psychotherapeutic approaches. 1.5 Demonstrate knowledge of mental disorders and diagnostic classification systems that are used in Clinical Psychology.

	<p>1.6 Demonstrate knowledge and skills in report writing (critical components of a clinical report).</p> <p>1.7 Prioritise understanding of the importance and process of clinical supervision.</p> <p>1.8 Prioritise understanding of key skills, attitude, and competencies in Clinical Psychology.</p> <p>1.9 Analyse psychological theories and concepts in relations to the Botswana context (presentation, cultural explanations, indigenous methods of treatment).</p>
2. Apply knowledge and skills ethical, legal and professional matters.	<p>2.1 Identify and apply relevant ethics codes and legislations governing psychologists and codes of professional conduct. Examples include APA ethics codes as well as the Mental Health Act.</p> <p>2.2 Analyse ethical issues associated with working with individuals, couples and families, cultural groups, organisations, and the community.</p> <p>2.3 Apply skills in managing ethical issues and dilemmas in research and practice.</p> <p>2.4 Resolve ethical dilemmas in line with the ethical, legal, and professional requirements.</p>
3. Conduct clinical practice in a professional manner.	<p>3.1 Engage in working with people across the lifespan.</p> <p>3.2 Manage clinical cases.</p> <p>3.3 design interventions for different groups (i.e., individuals, couples, families, different cultural groups, and the community).</p> <p>3.4 Demonstrate professionalism in terms of dress, language, and conduct.</p> <p>3.5 Demonstrate skills (e.g. screening, assessment, intervention, report writing etc.), knowledge (psychological approaches, ethical standards, etc.), attitude (openness, empathy, neutrality etc.) and competencies that are reflective of a professional.</p>
4. Conduct Clinical Assessment for diagnosis and evaluation.	<p>4.1 Apply knowledge of the techniques and tools that clinical psychologists use for assessment of individuals, couples, groups and families.</p> <p>4.2 Select, administer, score and interpret different clinical assessment instruments and tools.</p> <p>4.3 Interpret assessment data to provide evidence for diagnosis, clinical management, and intervention.</p> <p>4.4 Synthesize clinical data to compile a clinical report.</p>
5. Conduct Research on health-related issues from a psychological perspective.	<p>5.1 Address complex ethical and legal issues related to clinical/psychological research.</p> <p>5.2 Apply knowledge of research methods and advanced inferential statistics.</p>

	<p>5.3 Identify independently a problem and conceptualise empirical research projects.</p> <p>5.4 Execute empirical research projects under reasonable supervision.</p> <p>5.5 Analyse and interpret data as well as reflect on the meaning of empirical findings.</p> <p>5.6 Present research and its findings in accordance with acceptable standards.</p> <p>5.7 Conduct empirical and impactful research that informs clinical practice</p>
6. Apply effective clinical interventions for treatment and prevention.	<p>6.1 Manage treatment plans effectively.</p> <p>6.2 Assess cases and offer psychological first aid where necessary.</p> <p>6.3 Select and apply empirically based interventions based on their effectiveness and efficacy.</p> <p>6.4 Measure effectiveness of treatment plans.</p> <p>6.5 Design interventions based on information from assessment and diagnosis.</p> <p>6.6 Offer psychological interventions to various client populations e.g. couple, family, group, individual.</p>
7. Apply clinical psychology knowledge to develop value-added services for improved mental health in Botswana.	<p>7.1 Identify opportunities for value-added services beyond traditional clinical psychology services for job creation and income-generation in Botswana and other settings.</p> <p>7.2 Design and offer health-enhancing products in interdisciplinary teams.</p> <p>7.3 Advocate for clients in non-traditional settings.</p> <p>7.4 Engage in research that informs clinical psychology in Botswana.</p>

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SECTION C		QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE			
COMPONENT	TITLE	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total Credits
		Level [9]	Level []	Level []	
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units					
CORE COMPONENT Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units	Advanced Research Methods and Design in Psychology	12			12
	Practicum in Clinical Psychology	112			112
	Supervised Thesis in Psychology	80			80
	Advanced Statistics and Data Analysis in Psychology	12			12
	Ethical, Legal, and Professional Issues in Psychology	12			12
	Psychopathology	12			12
	Psychological Assessment	12			12

	Psychotherapy, Counselling, and Interviewing skills	12			12
	Psychotherapy for Diverse Populations	12			12
	Psychopharmacology	12			12
STRANDS/ SPECIALIZATION	Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total Credits
		Level [9]	Level []	Level []	
1.					
2.					
Electives	Multicultural Psychotherapy	12			12
	Psycho-spirituality	12			12
	Forensic Psychology	12			12
	Couple, Marriage, and Family Therapy	12			12
	Community Mental Health	12			12
	Advanced Topics in Neuropsychology	12			12
	Substance use/misuse and dependence	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
9	312
TOTAL CREDITS	312

Rules of Combination:

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

In order for a learner to graduate with the M.A. Clinical Psychology qualification, they should have:

- completed a minimum of 312 credits distributed as follows:
 - 264 credits of core courses
 - 48 credits out of the 96 credits of the optional courses

Achieved at least 60% in the practicum.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

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

Formative assessment

Formative assessment or continuous assessment contributing towards the award of credits should be based on course outcomes. The contribution of formative assessment to the final grade shall be 50%.

For practicum, the portfolio shall be the primary mode of formative assessment and shall wholly contribute towards the final grade. Learners must achieve a minimum grade of 60% in the portfolio to pass.

Summative assessment

The final examination for examinable courses contributes 50% of the final mark of the qualification.

MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS

BQA or equivalent bodies accredited assessors with doctoral degrees shall moderate assessments in accordance with ETP policies and BQA guidelines.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

Candidates 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 ETP's RPL policies and relevant national-level policy and legislative framework. Implementation of RPL shall also be consistent with requirements, if any, prescribed for the field or sub-field of study by relevant national, regional, or international professional bodies.

CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER

There shall be a provision for awarding the qualification through CAT and the provision shall be in accordance with BQA regulation. Accepted accumulated credit shall be transferred in accordance with applicable BQA regulations.

PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)

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

The M. A. Clinical Psychology programme enables learners to enrol in:

- MSc/MA Applied Psychology
- MSc/MA Health Psychology

- MSc/MA Counselling Psychology
- Med Educational Psychology
- Master of Public Health
- MSc/MA Community Mental Health

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

Graduates of M. A. Clinical Psychology programme will be able to enrol in:

- PhD Mental Health
- Doctor of Public Health/PhD Public Health
- PhD Applied Psychology
- PhD Clinical Psychology
- PhD Developmental Psychology
- PhD (Clinical) Neuropsychology
- PhD Educational Psychology
- PhD (Clinical) Forensic Psychology
- Doctor of Psychology

Employment Pathways

Graduates will be able to work in the following areas or capacities:

- Clinical Psychologist
- Child and Adolescent Psychologist
- Mental Health Specialist
- Mental Health Promotion Specialist
- Mental Health Policy Specialist
- Psychological Assessment Specialist
- School Psychologist
- Employee Wellness Specialist
- Workplace Mental Health Consultant

QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION

To be awarded an Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology qualification, a learner should have completed a minimum of 312 credits distributed according to the rules of combination. A candidate who successfully completes the qualification shall be issued with a certificate as an indication of the award in accordance with BQA and ETP policies.

SUMMARY OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

We benchmarked this qualification against similar qualifications at University of KwaZulu-Natal (South Africa), Fort Hays State University (United States), University of Plymouth (United Kingdom), Bond University (Australia), and University of Bath (United Kingdom). There are no major differences among the South African, UK, US qualifications, and the Botswana qualification. The core courses are generally the same in content and in quality. For instance, the Botswana Qualification has similar entry requirements as the programmes benchmarked. Besides, many of the courses/modules are similar. For instance, Psychological Assessment, Psychopathology/abnormal psychology, Supervised Thesis in Psychology, Clinical interventions and Practicum in Clinical Psychology are common to the other programmes.

On the other hand, this programme differs in its structure and duration. For instance, it differs from the programme structure for UKZN in that the UKZN tends to treat the modules as consisting of several courses. In terms of the duration, most of the UK-based programmes and the South African-based programme have short duration of a year-long. However, US-based and Australian programmes have a duration of two years. In addition, the qualifications frameworks differ slightly country by country.

The qualifications being compared lead to similar employment pathways as well as vertical articulation. Indeed, all the programmes prepare their graduates for a Doctoral degree (PhD or PsyD) in psychology or clinical psychology or counselling psychology. The qualification also facilitates horizontal articulation in the education pathway. The Botswana qualification for the master's in clinical psychology compares satisfactorily with similar qualifications internationally. Professional registration as a psychologist around the world requires graduate studies at least the master's level. This programme, therefore, prepares one for professional practice of clinical psychology in the Republic of Botswana subject to the professional registration with Botswana Health Professions Council.

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	



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