

BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE

SECTION A: QUALIFICATION DETAILS												
QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER (S)			Botswana Defence Force-Defence Command and Staff College									
TITLE		Master of Military Art and Science					NCQF LEVEL		9			
STRANDS (where applicable)		N/A										
FIELD		Law and Security					CREDIT VALUE		240			
SUB FIELD		Security										
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												
<p>RATIONALE:</p> <p>Since its inception in 1977, Botswana Defence Force (BDF) has been sending its officers to attend Defence Command and Staff Course in other countries. This practice had its limitations such as high costs and limited number of officers that foreign colleges could admit in any given year. As a result, the BDF has always had a backlog in its training and development plan of its officers. In addition, training officers abroad was found problematic as various countries have different doctrines and threat perceptions. There have been also notable contradictions in the doctrines learnt from different staff colleges, resulting in inconsistencies in the BDF doctrine. Therefore, in 2007, the BDF established a Defence Command and Staff College (DCSC) whose primary function is to train and</p>												

prepare military officers for command and staff positions and to this end, the need to develop this qualification.

This qualification offers a wide range of short and long courses face-to face. Such include leadership and management, strategy, information warfare, cyber and political integration. The provision of this training and education goes beyond boundaries of defence and it also transferable to other government departments such as Botswana Police Service, Botswana Prisons Service, Office of the President, Directorate of Intelligence and Security, Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime and many others.

This is an outcome based qualification designed to provide learners with knowledge, skills, and values to lead and command units at tactical level and be a staff officer at operational and strategic level. They will manage security agencies, advice on national security matters, conduct advanced research in defence and strategic studies, analysis of security threats and operate in combined, joint, interagency and multinational environment.

The approach to the study is interdisciplinary. It includes but not limited to military science and technology, defence resource management, command, leadership, national security studies, international relations, international peacekeeping, in order to develop lifelong learning agile officers who will be able to operate in a contemporary complex defence and security environment able to operate as staff officers and commanders at tactical and operational level.

Its objective is motivated by the tertiary education and aspiration of Vision 2036 of being a knowledge driven economy and a safe and secure nation, and Human Resources Development Council Priority Skills 2023 which advocates for development of skills such as critical thinking, cyber management, intelligence and strategic management, which this qualification offers. Other motivators are the protocols relating to the establishment of Peace and Security Council of African Union (AU, 2002); Southern African Development Community (SADC) protocol on Politics, Security and defence Council, (SADC, 2001 National Security Principle Legislation (2021); Botswana National Security Act (2005); Botswana Defence Force Act of 2018 and the Intelligence and Security Services Act (2007).

The qualification will appeal to graduates who aspire career in government bodies, the armed forces, inter-governmental organisations, NGOs, or academia, and to practitioners looking to enhance their practical skills while placing them within a broader theoretical perspective.

PURPOSE:

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

1. Analyse and apply military strategic theories, doctrines, and principles to complex operational, national, and international security environments, demonstrating advanced understanding of warfare, conflict management, and peace operations.
2. Demonstrate strategic leadership and ethical decision-making by integrating military art and science into the planning, execution, and assessment of operations in diverse and dynamic military and geopolitical contexts.
3. Design and conduct independent, original research in military studies, using appropriate methodologies to address contemporary security challenges, and effectively communicate findings to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.

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4. Evaluate and apply military history and policy frameworks to support strategic forecasting, defence planning, and national security decision-making at institutional and governmental levels.
5. Collaborate and lead effectively in multidisciplinary and multinational teams, utilising intercultural competencies, systems thinking, and communication skills to influence defence policy and contribute to mission success in joint and combined operations.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)

- Specially selected candidates from the military and government departments related to security and defence with minimum entry of Bachelor's Degree (NCQF Level 7)
- There is a provision for entry through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) in line with institutional and national policies.

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SECTION B QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION	
GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
<p>1. Analyse classical and contemporary military theories and doctrines to apply them in the planning, execution, and evaluation of current and future military operations across various operational contexts.</p>	<p>1.1 Identify and use principles, theories, and concepts, in relation to how they apply in the field of military art and science.</p> <p>1.2 Analyse the environment of civil-military control and the authority levels through application of theories and principles.</p> <p>1.3 Apply knowledge of military history and contemporary warfare to support strategic innovation and adaptive leadership within dynamic conflict and post-conflict scenarios</p>
<p>2. Assess global and regional security threats using strategic, political, and socio-economic perspectives to inform defence planning and security policy at national and international levels.</p>	<p>2.1 Identify and analyse conflicts within the SADC regions</p> <p>2.2 Evaluate different options in ending conflicts in the region</p> <p>2.3 Evaluate and solve challenges in the SADC conflicts</p>

<p>3. Conduct independent academic and field research in military art and science employing qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-methods approaches to address strategic and tactical challenges.</p>	<p>3.1 Demonstrate understanding of research methodology</p> <p>3.2 Apply principles of data collection and data analysis</p> <p>3.3 Demonstrate the ability to conduct and report on a research project.</p> <p>3.4 Communicate complex military concepts and strategic recommendations effectively through academic writing, policy briefs, operational reports, and oral presentations to both military and civilian audiences.</p>
<p>4. Demonstrate advanced leadership and decision-making capabilities in complex, high-stakes military and security environments where rapid and ethical responses are essential.</p>	<p>4.1 Illustrate an understanding of thinking as operational leaders to adapt to contemporary defence and security issues</p> <p>4.2 Demonstrate the ability to command, lead and perform staff functions in the military and security environments</p> <p>4.3 Apply management principles in performing assigned duties and utilize resources within the military environment</p> <p>4.4 Demonstrate ability to enhance transparency, accountability, through appropriate management of resources</p>
<p>5. Integrate interdisciplinary knowledge from political science, international relations, security studies, and technology to enhance military strategy and inform comprehensive defence planning and implementation</p>	<p>5.1 Demonstrate understanding of how states relate</p> <p>5.2 Illustrate the role played by militaries in enhancing diplomatic relations and developments of states.</p> <p>5.3 Apply appropriate usage of information technology (ICT) in military art and science Studies.</p> <p>5.4 Use appropriate resources, techniques, materials and ICT to address various military and security needs.</p>

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	5.5 Analyse the appropriateness and benefits of technologies used in the various contexts of military and security
6. Demonstrate cross-cultural and collaborative competencies for effective participation and leadership in joint, interagency, and multinational military operations and alliances.	<p>6.1 Illustrate an understanding of the role and influence of different cultures, ethnicity and women in conflict in military operations and alliances</p> <p>6.2 Apply collaborative skills in resolving conflicts that may arise in cross-cultural environments</p> <p>6.3 Assimilate planned missions at different levels in joint interagency and multinational military operations and alliances</p>
7. Develop strategic operational plans grounded in military science aligned with ethical, legal, and humanitarian standards to ensure effective and responsible mission execution.	<p>7.1 Demonstrate knowledge of strategic operational plans grounded in military science</p> <p>7.2 Analyse and integrate ethical, legal, and humanitarian standards in strategic operational plans</p> <p>7.3 Execute effective strategic operational plans and missions grounded in military science</p>

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SECTION C	QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE				
COMPONENT	TITLE	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total Credits
		Level [7]	Level [8]	Level [9]	
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units	Foundation Studies	5			5
	Research Methodology		10		10
	Land Warfare		15		15

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CORE COMPONENT Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units	Joint Warfare		10		10
	Air Warfare		10		10
	Maritime Warfare		5		5
	Military Operations Other Than War		7		7
	Operational Logistics		7		7
	Intelligence		5		5
	Command, Leadership & Management		6		6
	Foreign Policy and Diplomacy		10		10
	International Peacekeeping		10		10
	Security Conflict & War			10	10
	Civil Military Relations		10		10
	Law of Armed Conflict			10	10
	National Security Strategy Analysis			10	10
	Dissertation			80	80
Electives (choose 2)	Defence Resource Management			10	10
	Environment and Sustainable Development			10	10
	Gender, Women and Security			10	10
	Africa and the International System			10	10
	Defence Analysis			10	10
	National Security Policy Analysis			10	10

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SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL

TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL

NCQF Level	Credit Value
7	5
8	105
9	130
TOTAL CREDITS	240

Rules of Combination:

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

Fundamental component: 15 credits

Core component: 205 credits

Elective component: 20 credits

TOTAL CREDITS: 240

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ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Assessment will include both formative and summative modes.

- Formative assessment will contribute **60%** to the overall qualification.
- Summative assessment will constitute the other **40%** of the overall qualification.

Assessment arrangements will be conducted by people who are qualified in the cognate field and registered and accredited by a recognized authority or body.

MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS

There will be both Internal Moderation and External moderation, conducted by people who are qualified in the cognate field and registered and accredited by a recognized authority or body.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

Provision of RPL for award of the qualification will be in line with the National RPL Policy.

CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER

Awarding of qualification through CAT will be applied in the line with National CAT policy.

PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)

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

- Master of Arts in Defence Studies (NCQF 9)
- Master of Arts in Political Science (NCQF 9)
- Master of Science in Strategic Leadership and Management (NCQF 9)
- Master of Arts in International Relations (NCQF 9)

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

Graduates may progress to higher level qualifications such as:

- PhD in Defence Studies (NCQF 10)
- PhD in Political Science (NCQF 10)
- PhD in Strategic Leadership and Management (NCQF 10)
- PhD in International Relations (NCQF 10)

Employment Pathways

Career opportunities for graduates are varied. They include, among others:

- Diplomat
- Military Attaché
- Lecturer/ Instructor/ Directing Staff
- Staff Officer

- Commander

QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION

Minimum standards of achievement for the award of the qualification:

Candidates shall be eligible for the award of a **Master of Military Art and Science** upon attainment of 240 Credits from the Fundamentals (15 credits), Core (205 credits) and Electives (20 credits).

Graduates shall be given certificates and transcripts.

SUMMARY OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

The qualification was benchmarked with other military senior command qualifications regionally and internationally. It was compared with similar ones from the following countries:

- Ghana
- South Africa
- United States of America
- United Kingdom

SIMILARITIES

Title of Qualification, NQF Level & Credit Value or Duration (where applicable)

The developed qualification title is similar to the regional and international qualifications it was benchmarked against, but much closer to the Master in Military Art and Science (MMAS) of United States of America Command and General Staff College. The duration of the developed qualification is also similar to the qualifications it was benchmarked against with 1-year duration. When mapped onto NCQF, the NQF levels of the qualifications benchmarked against are equated to Level 9 except the of United States of America Command and General Staff College one which does not have the NQF Level because there is no qualification framework at the country of origin.

Main Exit Outcome(s)

The main exit outcome(s) of the developed qualification's focus is at the same level as the qualifications it was benchmarked against, emphasizing on producing graduates with specialized knowledge, skills and competencies to carry out processes and apply research on strategy, military, defence and security concepts as well policy and international relations.

Domains/Modules/Courses/Subjects covered (Fundamental, core & electives)

The course menu including fundamentals, cores and electives for the developed qualification also aligns with those of the qualifications it was benchmarked against. The courses are developed and packaged to produce graduates with specialized knowledge, capacity to carry out processes and applied research and applications of a range of advanced technical processes and skills in the defence and security environment.

Assessment strategies and Weightings

Assessment strategies that include components of the courses (i.e., across fundamentals, cores and electives) of the developed qualification are similar to those of the qualifications it was

benchmarked against. Practical work and field practical training is also similar across all the qualifications including the developed qualification.

Qualification rules and minimum Standards for the award of the qualification

Qualification rules and minimum standards of award of the qualifications are also aligned at which candidates need to progress accordingly through the levels of the respective qualifications to earn the minimum required credits with contributions across fundamentals, cores, electives and field practical training clearly stipulated.

Education and Employment Pathways

Generally, the developed qualification aligns with the other benchmarked qualifications in aiming to produce graduates which are sought after nationally, regionally and internationally offering a range of knowledge, skills and experience, developed by excellent teaching and infusion of internationally rated research competencies for careers in military, defence and security across government, consultancy, and private sectors.

DIFFERENCES

Title of Qualification, NQF Level & Credit Value or Duration (where applicable)

Although the content and focus of the qualifications are aligned, there are some differences in titles of some of the qualifications compared against to that of the developed qualification. For example, the main differences are evident looking at the Master of Science in Defence and International Politics of Ghana Armed Forces Command and Staff College, and that of Master of Arts in Defence Studies of United Kingdom as opposed to the developed qualification title of **MASTER.....** There are also some differences in credit values and type of credit systems used between the developed qualification and those it was benchmarked against. For example, United Kingdom Joint Services Command and Staff College uses a different credit system which gives the qualification a credit value of 180, while others did not specify credit value but duration. South Africa Stellenbosch University's qualification Master of Military Science with specialisation in Military History, Military Strategy, Security and Africa Studies, and Technology has a credit value of 180 as well.

Main Exit Outcome(s)

The main exit outcome(s) of the benchmarked qualifications show some slight differences to that of the developed qualification to accommodate all the focus areas covered especially that of Stellenbosch University's qualification Master of Military Science with specialisation in Military History, Military Strategy, Security and Africa Studies, and Technology.

Domains/Modules/Courses/Subjects covered (Fundamental, core & electives)

Although courses' menu including fundamentals, cores and electives for the developed qualification aligns with those of the benchmarked qualifications, there are some slight differences in terms of electives leading to specialisation like that one of Stellenbosch University.

Assessment strategies and Weightings

There are very slight differences on assessment strategies that includes components of the courses (i.e., across fundamentals, cores, electives and field practical training) and weightings of the developed qualification as compared to the qualifications it was benchmarked against. But this is mostly on weightings across different assessment components including field practical training.

Qualification rules and minimum Standards for the award of the qualification

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There is very little on differences.

Education and Employment Pathways

There is little difference except on variants to accommodate variants of the content of courses covered by the respective qualifications especially the Stellenbosch University which has a range of specialisations including Technology.

Concluding Statement

Though the developed qualification differs with those compared against in terms of title, it compares similarly well with them as they are all military, defence and security based opening up to domains of strategic and critical thinking, command and leadership, war fighting and peacekeeping, international relations as well as research. These qualifications are offered by Defence Command and Staff Colleges of the respective countries and some in partnerships with identified universities with duration of 1 year.

REVIEW PERIOD

5 YEARS

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CODE (ID)			
REGISTRATION STATUS	BQA DECISION NO.	REGISTRATION START DATE	REGISTRATION END DATE



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LAST DATE FOR ENROLMENT	LAST DATE FOR ACHIEVEMENT



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