

BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE

SECTION A: QUALIFICATION DETAILS												
QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER (S)	University of Botswana											
TITLE	Master of Arts In Defence And Strategic Studies						NCQF LEVEL			9		
STRANDS (where applicable)	1. 2. N/A 3. 4.											
FIELD	Law and Security			SUB-FIELD			Security			CREDIT VALUE		240
<i>New Qualification</i>						<i>Legacy Qualification</i>						✓
SUB-FRAMEWORK		<i>General Education</i>				<i>TVET</i>				<i>Higher Education</i>		✓
QUALIFICATION TYPE		<i>Certificate</i>	<i>I</i>	<i>II</i>	<i>III</i>	<i>IV</i>	<i>V</i>	<i>Diploma</i>		<i>Bachelor or</i>		
<i>Bachelor Honours</i>				<i>Post Graduate Certificate</i>				<i>Post Graduate Diploma</i>				
<i>Masters</i>						✓			<i>Doctorate/ PhD</i>			
RATIONALE AND PURPOSE OF THE QUALIFICATION												
<p>RATIONALE:</p> <p>The Master of Arts in Defence and Strategic Studies (MADSS) degree is designed to give students graduate-level knowledge and specialized skills related to geopolitics, defence strategies and geostrategics, along with strong graduate and research attributes that will equip them to compete in the global marketplace as lifelong learners. These goals are driven by the following: the new tertiary environment and the ambitions of Vision 2036 to become a knowledge-driven economy; the African Union (AU) 2002 Peace and Security Council Protocol. (The protocol addresses the issue of collective security and early warning arrangements intended to facilitate timely and efficient responses to conflict and crises in Africa); The Southern African Development Community (SADC) 2001 Politics, Defense, and Security Council Protocol. (The SADC 2021 protocol promotes peace and security across Southern Africa, protecting the region’s people from instability due to the breakdown of law and order, developing a common foreign policy throughout the region, and cooperating on matters related to security and defence). The ECOWAS 2009 Protocol on the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, Resolution, Peacekeeping, and Security Law. (The ECOWAS 2009 protocol addresses Early warning, preventive diplomacy, democracy and</p>												

political governance, human rights and the rule of law media, natural resource governance, cross-border initiatives, security governance, practical disarmament, women, peace and security). The Botswana National Security Act (2005). The ACT promote national security by providing for a Secretary of Defense; a National Military Establishment; a Department of the Army, a Department of the Navy, and a Department of the Air Force; and for the coordination of the activities of the National Military Establishment with other departments. Lastly, the Intelligence and Security Services Act (2007). This provides for the establishment of the Directorate of Intelligence and Security Services and defines its functions. However, the MADSS would offer courses on conflict resolutions, peacekeeping, foreign policy, foreign policy analysis, international organizations, and diplomacy and statecraft which are relevant to the understanding of international diplomacy. The qualification is innovative in that it blends key themes and trends in strategic studies, and appeals to a broad spectrum of students, nationally and beyond. A Master of Arts Degree in Defence and Strategic Studies would appeal to traditional students who may wish to pursue a doctorate in specific and relative fields.

PURPOSE: (itemise exit level outcomes)

The purpose of the qualification Master of Arts in Defence and Strategic Studies is to produce graduates with advanced knowledge, skills and competencies to:

- Manage security agencies.
- Advise on national security matters.
- Conduct advanced research in defence and strategic studies.
- Analyse security threats.
- Apply acquired knowledge on security matters.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)

The minimum requirement for the qualification into the Master of Arts Degree in Strategic Studies shall be:

- i) A bachelor's degree in social sciences or a cognate discipline in Humanities or equivalent from any recognized university at NCQF level 7.
- i) Relevant prior learning will be recognized. In addition, relevant experience in the areas of governance, defence and security management will be recognized.

BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE

SECTION B		QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION	
GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)		ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	
<p>1. Demonstrate an understanding of concepts and theories of Defence, and Strategic Studies.</p>	<p>1.1 Identify the concepts and theories of strategic studies. 1.2 Differentiate strategic studies concepts and theories. 1.3 Apply the study of strategic studies in the discussion of contemporary strategic issues.</p>		
<p>2. Demonstrate ability to review and critique literature.</p>	<p>2.1 Identify relevant defence and strategic studies literature. 2.2 Critique literature in defence and strategic studies. 2.3 Identify the dynamics inherent in the study of strategic studies.</p>		
<p>3. Assess Information with external stakeholders such as the Ministry of Defense, foreign affairs, and intelligence community.</p>	<p>3.1 Develop Policy Briefs for external stakeholders. 3.2 Present a Policy brief on defence and strategic studies to external stakeholders. 3.3 Apply intelligence in strategic analysis.</p>		
<p>4. Apply critical thinking and analytical skills in solving defence and security issues.</p>	<p>4.1 Analyse strategic defence and security issues. 4.2 Apply critical thinking in tactical operations solving defence issues. 4.5 Apply analytical skills in solving security issues.</p>		
<p>5. Demonstrate in-depth knowledge and develop a position about a major debate on defence and strategic studies issues.</p>	<p>5.1 Engage in major debates on contemporary international security issues. 5.2 Apply the techniques of defence analysis in international conflict. 5.3 Apply the principles of conflict strategy in the global debate on political crisis.</p>		
<p>6. Utilize information management and communication systems to generate a well-informed argument in defence and strategic studies.</p>	<p>6.1 Use technology to inform communication about defence and strategic studies. 6.2 Apply management information systems in decision-making structure in defence and strategic studies.</p>		

BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE

	6.3 Apply the impact of information and communication on warfare.
7. Engage in independent research and gather information to solve defence and strategic issues.	<p>7.1 Formulate a research topic and identify the research problems in defence and strategic studies.</p> <p>7.2 Apply quantitative and qualitative tools and methodologies in solving problems in defence and strategic studies.</p> <p>7.3 Apply methodological framework in the analysis of global defense strategy.</p>
8. Demonstrate the use of expert knowledge to pre-empt security issues in defence and strategic studies	<p>8.1 Use simulations to pre-empt national and global security challenges.</p> <p>8.2 Apply stimulations in the management of conflict and conflict resolution in defence and strategic studies.</p> <p>8.3 Apply the knowledge of security as a tool to analyse strategic studies.</p>

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SECTION C	QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE				
COMPONENT	TITLE	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total Credits
		Level []	Level []	Level [9]	
			<i>Theories of International Relations</i>		
CORE COMPONENT	<i>Theses</i>			120	120
<i>Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units</i>	<i>Research Methods and Computer Applications</i>			12	12

BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE

	<i>International Peace Keeping</i>			12	12
	<i>Security, Conflict and War</i>			12	12
	<i>Law of Armed Forces</i>			12	12
	<i>Africa and the International System</i>			12	12
	<i>Applied Media Relations and Communications in the Military</i>			12	12
	<i>Human Rights in World Politics</i>			12	12
	<i>Advanced Strategic Studies</i>			12	12
	<i>Diplomacy and Statecraft</i>			12	12
	TOTAL				240

BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE

SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL

TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL

<i>NCQF Level</i>	<i>Credit Value</i>
Level 9	240
TOTAL CREDITS	240

Rules of Combination:

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

Students must complete 240 graduate credits.

- **Students must write a 120-credit thesis as part of the 240 required credits.**
- **The 240 credits are divided as follows:**
 - **Fundamental component= 12**
 - **Core component = 228**

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Formative assessment: The contribution of formative assessment to the final grade shall be 50%.

Summative assessment: This will constitute 50% of the final mark.

MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS

The qualification shall have two types of moderation:

- Internal moderation
- External moderation

This will be following the applicable institutional and national policies and regulations.

Assessors and moderators shall be accredited

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and credit accumulation transfer will be applicable for consideration for the award of this qualification and will be in line with institutional and national policies.

RPL for award of the qualification will be in line with Institutional and BQA policies.

CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER

Credits Accumulation and transfer shall be allowed in line with BQA and institutional policy.

PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)

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

- Master of Arts degree in Strategic Studies (NCQF 9)
- Master of Arts degree in International Relations (NCQF 9)
- Master of Arts in History (NCQF 9)
- Master Arts in Sociology (NCQF 9)

Vertical Articulation (qualifications to which the holder may progress)

Graduates may progress to higher level qualifications such as:

- PhD in Politics and International Relations (NCQF 10)
- PhD in Political Science (NCQF 10)
- PhD in International Relations (NCQF 10)
- PhD in Security Studies (NCQF 10)

Employment Pathways

Career opportunities for graduates with a Master of Arts in Defense and Strategic Studies are varied. They include, among others:

- Diplomat

- Military Attache
- Lecturer/Military Instructor
- Defense Analyst

QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION

Minimum standards of achievement for the award of the qualification

A student shall be eligible for the award of a Master of Arts in Defence and Strategic Studies upon completion of a minimum of 240 credits from the fundamental, Core and electives.

8.2 Certification

Candidates meeting prescribed requirements will be awarded a Master of Arts in Defence and Strategic Studies following the standards prescribed for the award of the qualification and applicable policies.

SUMMARY OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

To ensure comparability with similar degree programmes the MADSS was developed through a conscientious benchmarking exercise. Prior exploratory research and internet searches were conducted to identify universities and institutes in the region, the continent of Africa and globally that offer similar degree programmes.

Comparability with Regional Universities

One University in the region was selected to compare their qualification structure with the proposed qualification and to learn from them. The selected University

Stellenbosch University Military Science. MA (Military Science)
National Defense College, Kenya: MA (Strategic Interligence studies)

Similarities

- They are similar in terms of duration which is 2 years.
- All qualification is based on the thesis and coursework.
- The qualifications have several similar exit learning outcomes.

Differences

- MA in military science qualification at Stellenbosch gives the student an option to select either course coursework-based programme or research-based.
- MA total credit varies among the benchmarked universities.

Comparability with International Universities

The Master of Arts (Defence and Strategic Studies) qualification was benchmarked with one reputable international university in Europe). It is one of the very few universities outside of Africa that focus on strategic studies at the postgraduate level.

- Master of Arts (Defence and Security Studies) University of New Zealand

Similarities

However, both the qualification offered by the University of New Zealand and the proposed qualification offer Master of Arts as a degree designation. Given that the bachelor's degree qualification of four in the universities is a minimum requirement for postgraduate studies.

BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE

Differences

The qualification offered by the University of Newzealand differs with the Master of Arts in Defense and Strategic Studies in total credits.

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	