BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE

SECTION A:	QUALIFICATION DETAILS														
QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER (S)	Botswana Institute of Banking and Finance														
TITLE	Master of Science in Banking and Finance											**NCQF LEVEL**	9		
STRANDS (where applicable)	N/A.														
FIELD	Business, Commerce and Management Studies											**CREDIT VALUE**	250		
SUB FIELD	Finance														
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 Master of Science in Banking and Finance responds to the need for advanced and specialised capabilities within Botswana's evolving financial-services sector. The Human Resource Development Council (HRDC) Priority Skills Report 2025 identifies Financial, Real Estate and Business Services as a national priority sector and indicates demand for specialised financial-services occupations, including financial analysts, investment analysts and portfolio managers. The financial-services sector is increasingly shaped by technological innovation, evolving regulatory requirements, sophisticated financial products, sustainability considerations and changing

approaches to financial risk and decision-making. These developments require professionals with advanced analytical, technological, regulatory and strategic capabilities.

This qualification therefore seeks to produce advanced banking and finance professionals who can critically analyse complex financial issues, exercise informed professional judgement, apply advanced financial and technological tools, manage emerging financial and non-financial risks, and provide strategic and evidence-based solutions within evolving banking and financial-services environments. Graduates will also be equipped to undertake independent research and contribute to professional practice, policy and further scholarship.

PURPOSE: (itemise exit level outcomes)

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

1. Integrate advanced banking, finance, investment and financial-market knowledge to formulate and evaluate strategic financial decisions in complex and changing environments.
2. Evaluate and manage financial, regulatory, governance, ethical, sustainability and global risks to support resilient and responsible banking and financial-services practice.
3. Apply advanced financial technologies, analytics, modelling and strategic leadership capabilities to develop evidence-based and innovative solutions for banking and financial-services organisations.
4. Design, conduct, communicate and defend independent research that addresses a contemporary banking and finance problem and contributes evidence to professional practice, policy or further scholarship.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)

The minimum entry requirements are set out below:

- A Bachelor's Degree (NCQF Level 7)
- There is provision for access through RPL and CAT in line with ETP policies

(Note: Please use Arial 11 font for completing the template)

SECTION B	QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION
GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)	**ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**
1. Evaluate advanced theories, principles and contemporary practices in banking, finance, financial markets and financial institutions.	1.1. Compare major banking and finance theories and evaluate their relevance to contemporary financial institutions and markets. 1.2. Analyse the structure, functions and interrelationships of banking institutions, non-bank financial institutions, capital markets, money markets and foreign-exchange markets. 1.3. Evaluate the valuation, risk-return characteristics and strategic uses of equities, fixed-income securities, derivatives, structured products and alternative investments. 1.4. Analyse how macroeconomic, market, institutional and technological developments influence financial decision-making and financial-system stability. 1.5. Synthesise theoretical and market evidence to formulate defensible recommendations for complex banking and finance problems
2. Integrate advanced corporate finance, investment and valuation techniques to formulate and evaluate strategic financial decisions.	2.1 Evaluate competing capital-structure, payout and financing theories and apply them to complex organisational contexts. 2.2 Apply advanced valuation and investment-appraisal techniques, including discounted cash flow, cost of capital, scenario analysis and real-options reasoning, where appropriate. 2.3 Assess strategic financing, capital-allocation, merger and acquisition, and treasury decisions in conditions of uncertainty. 2.4 Analyse financial performance and value creation using appropriate financial statements, ratios, cash-flow measures and market-based indicators. 2.5 Formulate strategic financial recommendations that integrate risk,

	governance, stakeholder and long-term value considerations
3. Design investment strategies and portfolios using advanced asset-pricing, portfolio-management and performance-evaluation techniques.	3.1 Apply modern and contemporary portfolio theories to portfolio construction, diversification and asset-allocation decisions. 3.2 Employ asset-pricing and risk-return models, including CAPM and multifactor approaches, to evaluate securities and portfolios. 3.3 Construct and evaluate portfolios using quantitative optimisation, strategic and tactical asset allocation, and appropriate constraints. 3.4 Evaluate portfolio and investment performance using risk-adjusted measures, benchmarks and attribution techniques. 3.5 Justify investment recommendations by integrating quantitative evidence, market conditions, investor objectives, behavioural considerations and relevant ethical or sustainability factors
4. Apply advanced financial analytics, modelling and forecasting techniques to support evidence-based decision-making in banking and finance.	4.1 Select appropriate quantitative techniques, including regression, time-series analysis, forecasting, scenario analysis and financial modelling, to complex financial data. 4.2 Evaluate the quality, limitations and reliability of financial data and analytical models before drawing conclusions. 4.3 Develop and interpret financial models to assess investment, funding, liquidity, profitability and strategic decision scenarios. 4.4 Use appropriate analytical and digital tools to generate, visualise and communicate financial insights for decision-making. 4.5 Critically evaluate model outputs, assumptions and sensitivity to uncertainty and formulate evidence-based recommendations.
5. Assess financial and non-financial risks and design integrated risk-management and resilience strategies for financial institutions and other organisations.	5.1 Differentiate credit, market, liquidity, operational, strategic, technology, cyber, climate and other emerging financial risks. 5.2 Apply appropriate risk-measurement techniques, including Value at Risk, stress testing, sensitivity analysis and scenario analysis, to assess risk exposure. 5.3 Evaluate the use of derivatives, diversification, insurance, limits, controls, capital and liquidity buffers as risk-mitigation mechanisms.

	5.4 Assess the interaction between risk appetite, governance, regulation, business strategy and organisational resilience. 5.5 Design integrated risk-management responses that address financial stability, climate resilience, sustainability and emerging technology risks.
6. Interpret governance, regulatory, compliance and ethical frameworks governing banking and financial services.	6.1 Analyse the legal, prudential and conduct frameworks applicable to banking and financial services in Botswana and relevant international contexts. 6.2 Evaluate governance, fiduciary, consumer-protection, AML/CFT, sanctions, data-privacy and compliance requirements in complex financial situations. 6.3 Assess the implications of regulatory change, financial innovation and cross-border activities for financial institutions and market participants. 6.4 Evaluate ethical dilemmas and conflicts of interest using appropriate professional, governance and ethical frameworks. 6.5 Formulate compliance, governance and responsible-finance recommendations that support integrity, accountability and financial-system stability.
7. Evaluate financial technologies, sustainable finance and global financial developments and lead responsible innovation in financial-services environments.	7.1 Evaluate digital banking, payments, blockchain/distributed-ledger technologies, artificial intelligence, data analytics and other fintech applications and their implications for financial-services business models. 7.2 Assess technology, cyber-security, data-governance, privacy, operational and regulatory risks associated with digital financial innovation. 7.3 Integrate sustainable-finance, ESG, climate-finance and responsible-investment principles into banking, investment and financing decisions. 7.4 Analyse global banking structures, cross-border capital flows, international financial institutions and emerging trends in global finance. 7.5 Exercise strategic leadership and professional judgement in designing and communicating responsible financial innovation and organisational-change initiatives

8. Design, conduct and defend independent research that addresses a contemporary banking and finance problem and contributes evidence for professional practice or policy.	1.1 Formulate a focused, significant and researchable banking or finance problem, question or hypothesis grounded in critical engagement with relevant literature. 1.2 Select and justify an appropriate research philosophy, design, methodology and analytical strategy for the identified research problem. 1.3 Collect, manage and analyse primary and/or secondary data using appropriate qualitative, quantitative or mixed-method techniques and relevant analytical tools. 1.4 Apply research ethics, data-management, integrity and quality criteria throughout the research process. 1.5 Synthesise findings with relevant theory and prior evidence, evaluate limitations, and develop defensible conclusions and recommendations. 1.6 Present research findings and defend the conclusions and recommendations to relevant stakeholders using appropriate written and oral communication methods.

Note: Please use Arial 11 font for completing the template)

BOTSWANA Qualifications Authority

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*	Advanced Banking Theory and Practice		*10*		*10*
	International Banking and Finance		*10*		*10*
	Financial Regulation, Compliance and Ethics		*10*		*10*
	Advanced Financial Markets and Institutions		*10*		*10*
	Strategic Financial Management			*10*	*10*
CORE COMPONENT *Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units*	Advanced Investment Analysis and Portfolio Management			*15*	*15*
	Financial Risk Management			*15*	*15*
	Financial Technology and Digital Banking			*15*	*15*
	Sustainable Finance, ESG and Responsible Investment			*15*	*15*
	Financial Modelling and Analytics			*15*	*15*
	Strategic Management and Leadership in Financial Services			*15*	*15*
	Master's Dissertation			*80*	*80*

ELECTIVE/ OPTIONAL COMPONENT (Select 2 Only) *Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units*	Mergers and Acquisitions			*15*	*15*
	Behavioural Finance and Investor Decision-Making			*15*	*15*
	Capital Markets and Treasury Management			*15*	*15*
	TOTAL CREDITS			*250*	***250***

BOTSWANA Qualifications Authority

SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL	
TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL	
NCQF Level	***Credit Value***
8	*40*
9	*210*
TOTAL CREDITS	***250***
Rules of Combination: ***(Please Indicate combinations for the different constituent components of the qualification)***	
The qualification comprises five (5) Fundamental modules, eight (8) Core Compulsory modules and three (3) Core Option modules. All Fundamental and Core Compulsory modules are compulsory. Learners shall select and successfully complete two (2) Option modules. A learner qualifies for the award after successfully completing 40 Fundamental credits, 170 Core Compulsory credits and 30 Core Option credits, giving a total of 250 credits. Successful learners shall be issued with a certificate and academic transcript by the awarding ETP.	

(Note: Please use Arial 11 font for completing the template)

BOTSWANA Qualifications Authority

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Formative assessment: 40%

Summative assessment: 60%

The Master's Dissertation shall be assessed separately in accordance with the ETP's approved postgraduate research-assessment procedures.

Assessors shall:

- be registered/accredited as assessors in accordance with applicable BQA requirements;
- hold a relevant qualification at least at the level required by applicable BQA and ETP policy, with preference for a doctoral qualification (NCQF 10) for dissertation assessment; and
- have appropriate subject-matter, professional and/or research expertise in the area being assessed.

MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS

Internal and external moderation shall be conducted in accordance with the ETP's approved moderation policies and procedures and applicable BQA requirements.

Moderators shall:

- be registered/accredited as moderators in accordance with applicable BQA requirements;
- possess an appropriate postgraduate qualification and relevant subject-matter expertise; and
- be independent of the assessment decision where external moderation is required.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) shall be applicable in accordance with the applicable national RPL requirements and the ETP's approved RPL policy and procedures.

CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER

Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) shall be applied in accordance with the National CAT Policy and the ETP's approved CAT procedures.

PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)

Vertical Progression

The qualification provides vertical academic progression to relevant NCQF Level 10 doctoral studies, subject to the admission requirements of the receiving institution. Possible pathways include:

- Doctor of Philosophy in Banking and Finance
- Doctor of Philosophy in Finance
- Doctor of Philosophy in Banking
- Doctor of Philosophy in Financial Economics

- Doctor of Philosophy in Risk Management

Horizontal Progression

- Master of Commerce in Banking
- Master of Commerce in Banking and Finance
- Master of Commerce in Finance

Professional Development Pathways

Graduates may also pursue relevant professional certifications in banking, investment, financial planning, risk, treasury, compliance or sustainable finance. Such certifications constitute professional-development pathways and are not presented as vertical academic articulation.

Employment Pathways

- Banking Manager
- Financial Manager
- Investment Analyst or Investment Manager
- Portfolio or Asset Manager
- Treasury Manager
- Risk Manager
- Financial Analyst
- Regulatory or Compliance Manager
- Sustainable Finance / ESG Specialist
- Digital Banking or FinTech Specialist
- Financial-services Consultant or Strategist
- Researcher, Policy Analyst or Lecturer in a relevant field

QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION

Upon successful completion of the qualification, the learner shall be awarded the:

Master of Science in Banking and Finance

Successful learners shall be issued with a qualification certificate and an academic transcript by the awarding ETP.

SUMMARY OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

Qualification Title

Similarity: All comparator qualifications are postgraduate qualifications in banking, finance or closely related fields and share substantial disciplinary coverage in banking, finance, investment and financial-services practice.

Difference/Position: The titles vary in emphasis. The Botho qualification is titled Master of Commerce – Banking, the UKZN qualification emphasises Banking and Investment Management, while the international comparator uses MSc Banking and Finance. This qualification adopts the broader Master of Science in Banking and Finance title to reflect its combined coverage of advanced banking, finance, analytics, technology, sustainability and research.

Qualification Level
Similarity: This qualification and the Master of Commerce – Banking are positioned at Level 9 within the Botswana qualifications framework, while the regional comparator is also positioned at postgraduate master's level within the South African framework.
Difference/Position: The international comparator is positioned within the UK qualifications framework and should therefore be considered within its national context rather than treated as a direct numerical equivalent of the Botswana NCQF level.

Credit Value
Similarity: All qualifications require substantial postgraduate study and include a significant research component.
Difference/Position: This qualification and the Master of Commerce – Banking both carry 250 credits, while the regional and international comparator qualifications use different credit conventions and overall credit volumes within their respective national systems.

Duration
Similarity: The qualifications are structured as master's-level study requiring advanced taught coursework together with independent research.
Difference/Position: The stated duration and study modes vary according to institutional and national delivery arrangements.

Main Exit Outcomes
Similarity: The qualifications develop advanced capability in banking, finance, investment, financial analysis, risk, regulation, professional judgement and research.
Difference/Position: This qualification places stronger integrated emphasis on financial analytics and modelling, FinTech and digital banking, sustainable finance and ESG, international banking and finance, and strategic leadership, in addition to traditional banking and finance capabilities.

Domains/Modules/Courses Covered
Similarity: There is strong common coverage in banking, corporate finance, financial markets, investment, risk management, regulation, quantitative analysis and research.
Difference/Position: The Master of Commerce – Banking includes areas such as banking operations, corporate finance, banking law, foreign exchange, commercial bank management, investment banking and regulation. This qualification extends this core through dedicated contemporary domains in financial modelling and analytics, FinTech and digital banking, sustainable finance and ESG, international banking and finance, and strategic leadership in financial services.

Assessment Strategies and Weightings
Similarity: All qualifications use a combination of continuous/formative assessment and summative assessment, including assignments, examinations and research-based assessment.
Difference/Position: Weightings and assessment structures differ across institutions, with some comparator qualifications using approximately equal coursework and examination weighting, while this qualification follows its prescribed institutional assessment model and includes substantial independent research.

Qualification Rules and Minimum Standards for Award
Similarity: All qualifications require successful completion of prescribed taught modules and a substantial research component for the award of the master's qualification.

Difference/Position: The specific distribution of compulsory modules, electives and dissertation credits differs across institutions according to qualification design.
REVIEW PERIOD
5 Years

(Note: Please use Arial 11 font for completing the template)

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**	