BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE

SECTION A:	QUALIFICATION DETAILS			

QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER (S)	University of Botswana			
TITLE	Master of Arts in Politics and International Relations	NCQF LEVEL		9
STRANDS (where applicable)	1. 2. 3. 4.			

FIELD	Humanities and Social Sciences	SUB-FIELD	Politics and International Relations	CREDIT VALUE	240

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			✓		Doctorate/ PhD				

RATIONALE AND PURPOSE OF THE QUALIFICATION

RATIONALE:

The rationale of the Master of Arts in Politics and International Relations (MAPIR) is to provide students with multi-disciplinary graduate-level knowledge, specific skills, with strong graduate and research attributes that prepare them to be lifelong learners to compete in the global landscape. A Master of Arts in Politics and International Relations would appeal to traditional students who may wish to purse a doctorate in the area. Similarly, the qualification would offer courses on Foreign Policy, Foreign Policy Analysis, International Organization, Regional Integration, and Diplomacy and Statecraft, which are relevant to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, staff of various diplomatic missions in Botswana and embassies and

International Organizations. The qualification is innovative in that it blends key themes and trends in International Relations, and appeals to a broad spectrum of students, nationally and beyond.

In the new tertiary landscape and the aspirations of Vision 2036 {Botswana 2016; African Union (AU) Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want (AU, 2015); United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN, 2012); Southern African Development Community Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP), 2020-2030 (SADC: 22020); Southern African Development Community Vision 2050 (SADC: 2020) are indicative of being national, regional, continental, and global knowledge driven economy. In addition to the knowledge-based economy, SADC and AU, for example, aim to build peaceful, inclusive, and industrialized region through consolidation and institutionalization of principles enshrined in protocols such as Protocol on Politics, Defence, and Security (SADC: 2001); African Charter on Democracy, Elections, and Governance (AU: 2012) and African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (OAU: 1981). It is imperative to teach qualifications that are relevant and quality-enhanced, responsive to global political landscape and increase the attractiveness and competitiveness at the national, regional, continental, and global levels.

PURPOSE: (itemise exit level outcomes)

The purpose of the qualification Master of Arts in Politics and International Relations is to produce graduates with knowledge, skills, and competences to:

- Promote conciliation, mediation, and arbitration in international relations.
- Advance conflict resolution and management.
- Promote bilateral and multilateral diplomacies through mutual cooperation.
- Foster normative principles of continental behaviour.
- Promote human rights and free and fair election.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)

The minimum requirement for admission into the Master of Arts in Politics and International Relations shall be:

i)   A bachelor's degree in social sciences at NCQF level 7 with at least a second-class division or equivalent from a recognized university.

ii)   ii) Relevant prior learning, work experience, and transfer of credits from comparable institutions in areas covered by the qualification will be recognized but will not outweigh formal academic

qualifications. In addition, relevant experience in the areas of governance, defence and security management will be recognized.

SECTION B	QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION
GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)	**ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**
1.Demonstrate understanding of theories, approaches, and models in politics and international relations.	1.1 Apply theories and methods in politics and international relations. 1.2 Organise seminar presentations that reflect mastery. and thorough grounding in politics and international relations. 1.3 Prepare policy papers in politics and international relations.
2. Apply theoretical perspectives in understanding processes and situations in politics and international relations.	2.1 Analyse political issues in Global politics. 2.2 Apply scholarly knowledge in politics and international relations.
3. Assess subject material in political science and international relations.	3.1 Analyse issues in politics and International Relations. 3.2 Analyse theories in politics and International Relations.
4.Process information pertaining to politics and international relations.	4.1 Apply skills and values in processing information relating to how countries embark on diplomatic relations in solving issues in the international system.

	4.2 Demonstrate communication skills with colleagues and external stakeholders in politics and international relations.
5. Demonstrate critical thinking in solving problems in politics and international affairs.	5.1 Apply critical thinking skills in solving governance and International Relations issues. 5.2 Conduct Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and, Threats (SWOT) analysis centred on diplomacy and international affairs.
6. Demonstrate readiness in applying knowledge and theories to live situations at national, regional, continental, and global arena.	6.1 Analyse communications and transactions to determine country's position in global politics. 6.2 Apply knowledge to analyse contemporary issues in politics and international relations.
7.Demonstrate knowledge in major debates on governance and international relations.	7.1 Apply original and independent knowledge in solving global politics. 7.2 Employ relevant theories and models in assessing political situations in global politics.
8.Develop information management systems to communicate well informed arguments in politics and international relations.	8.1 Apply knowledge in the use of computer to access politics and international relations information materials online. 8.2 Demonstrate knowledge in the use of Information, Communication, and Technology (ICT) in various library search engines.
9. Engage in independent research in solving politics and international relations problems.	9.1 Formulate a research topic and identify the research problem and questions.

	9.2 Prepare research proposal and articulate specific research methodology in politics and international relations.
10. Demonstrate effectiveness in the management of politics and international relation crises.	10.1 Apply mediation theory skills and strategics to solve national and international crises. 10.2 Employ reconciliation skills and techniques to manage national and international crises.

SECTION C	QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE				
COMPONENT	**TITLE**	**Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level**			**Total Credits**
		Level [ ]	**Level [ ]**	**Level [9]**	
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT *Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units*	Theories of International Relations			*12*	*12*
CORE COMPONENT *Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units*	Diplomacy & Statecraft			*12*	*12*
	Foreign Policy Analysis			*12*	*12*
	States And Development Policy			*12*	*12*

	World Politics Since 1945			*12*	*12*
	Democratization: Potential and Constraints			*12*	*12*
	Selected Issues in International Politics			*12*	*12*
	Environmental and Natural Resources Management			*12*	*12*
	Human Rights in World Politics			*12*	*12*
	Security, Conflict and War			*12*	*12*
	Thesis/ Dissertation			*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)

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

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

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:
This will be in accordance with the applicable institutional and national policies and regulations.

Accessor and moderators shall be accredited and registered.

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 the 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 in Strategic Studies (NCQF 9)
- • Master of Arts in History (NCQF 9)
- • Master of Diplomacy and Statecraft (NCQF 9)
- • Master of Political science (NCQF 9)
- • Master of Arts in Global Policy (NCQF 9)

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

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 Masters' Degree in politics and International Relations are varied. They include, among others:
- • Public relations
- • Diplomat
- • Political attache
- • Foreign Affairs officer
- • Lecturer

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 Degree in Politics and International Relations (MAPIR) upon completion of a minimum of 240 credits from the fundamental, Core and electives.

Certification

Candidates meeting prescribed requirements will be awarded a Master of Arts in Politics and International Relations in accordance with standards prescribed for the award of the qualification and applicable policies. Candidates who do not meet the prescribed minimum standards may, where applicable, be considered for appropriate exit awards in accordance with applicable policies.

SUMMARY OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

To ensure comparability with similar degree qualifications, the Master of Arts in Politics and International Relations qualification was developed through a conscientious benchmarking exercise. Prior exploratory research and internet search were conducted to identify universities and institutes in the region, continent of
Africa and globally that offer similar degree qualifications.

Comparability with Regional Universities
One university in the region was selected to compare it qualification structure with the proposed qualification and to learn from them. The selected University is:

- University of Witwatersrand, South Africa: Master of Arts in (International Relations)

Comparability with International Universities
The Master of Arts in Politics and International Relations (MAPIR) qualification was benchmarked with one reputable international university in Europe. It was chosen because it is top ranked university, and it is among the very few universities outside of Africa that focus on international relations at the postgraduate level.
- Master of Science in International Relations, London School of Economics, UK

Similarities
- In respect of some of the applicable standards and rules for the award of the master's degree, both universities require good honour's degree in a relevant field. All qualifications entail some research aspect and there are several modules that are the same; for example, modules related to international relations and conflicts aversion.

Differences
- The main difference is in the method of delivery. The qualifications benchmarked offer both full-time and part- time options for studying. There are also differences in some of the modules offered.

REVIEW PERIOD
5 years

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	