

WALTER SISULU UNIVERSITY (19)

**FACULTY OF NATURAL SCIENCES**

**Master of Science in Botany (MSCB)**

**Question 1:**

The programme should comprise one module reflecting a single advanced research project and not four credit bearing modules.

**Response:**

The programme has been modified as follows:

The four modules BOT5101; BOT5102; BOT5103 and BOT5104 have been removed and replaced by one advanced research project BOT5101: DISSERTATION.

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| **Programme Details : Master of Science in Botany** | | | | | | |
| Title of all modules | Compulsory (C)/Elective (E) | NQF level | Credits | No. of contact hours | Mode of delivery | Module status: Removed/Added/Modified/ Unchanged |
| Proposal  BOT5101 | C | 9 | 20 | 200 notional hours | Contact | Removed |
| Proposal BOT5102 | C | 9 | 20 | 200 notional hours | Contact | Removed |
| Dissertation  BOT5101 | C | 9 | 180 | 1800 notional hours | Contact | Modified |
| Congress/Conference Participation | C | 9 | 20 | 200 notional hours | Contact | Removed |

**Question 2:**

The assessment approach must align with such a single advanced research project.

**Response:**

Since the MSc degree is awarded on the basis of an approved dissertation and as such focuses on designing, implementation and writing up of a scientific research project, assessment involves:

**Literature survey:** To assess that the candidate understands the title of the dissertation and can translate it into a rigorous research plan, the candidate carries out a comprehensive literature survey which culminates to the successful presentation of the research proposal.

**Project implementation:** To assess that the candidate can successfully execute the project with the resources available (e.g. time, money, etc), progress is monitored through preparation, submission and presentation of progress reports.

**Presentation of results/findings:** To assess that the candidate is able to communicate scientific concepts clearly to a scientific audience, the candidate prepares and submits the final write-up of the findings in the form of a dissertation and presents results in local and/or international conferences.

Finally the dissertation is marked by the internal examiner and two external examiners.

**Question 3:**

The time allocated for direct contact should be reduced.

**Response:**

The time allocated for direct contact has been revised as follows:

Direct contact time 310 hours 17.2%

Assessment 90 hours 5%

Independent self-study 1400 hours 77.7%.

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