BCONSULT

Occupational Certificate
DATA SCIENCE PRACTITIONER

NQF Level 5 | SAQA ID 118708 | 185 Points | 12 Months

Occupational Certificate:

Data Science Practitioner – NQF Level 5

SAQA ID: 118708 | **Credits**: 185 | **Duration**: 12-month | QCTO Learnership

1. Course Overview

The Occupational Certificate: Data Science Practitioner equips learners with the skills to collect, transform, analyse, and present data to solve business problems.

Data Science Practitioners bridge the gap between raw data and decision-making by preparing robust datasets, applying statistical and analytical techniques, and producing insightful visual reports.

This qualification responds to the increasing demand for skilled data professionals in the era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR), where organisations rely on big data and analytics to enhance operations and drive innovation.

2. Learning Outcomes

On completion of this programme, learners will be able to:

- Collect large amounts of structured and unstructured data from diverse sources and prepare them for analysis.
- Apply analytical and statistical techniques to uncover trends, patterns, and insights within datasets.
- Present descriptive analytic reports, visualisations, and data-driven stories that inform business decisions.
- Operate ethically and professionally in data-driven environments.

KNOWLEDGE MODULES

Curriculum Code	Knowledge Module	NQF Level	Credits
251102-001-KM-01	Introduction to Data Science and Data Analysis	4	6
251102-001-KM-02	Logical Thinking and Basic Calculations : Refresher	4	4
251102-001-KM-03	Computers and Computing Systems	4	4
251102-001-KM-04	Computing Theory	4	2
251102-001-KM-05	Basic Statistics for Data Analytics	4	10
251102-001-KM-06	Statistics Essentials for Data Analytics	5	4
251102-001-KM-07	Data Science and Data Analysis	5	12
251102-001-KM-08	Data Analysis and Visualisation	5	16

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251102-001-KM-09	Introduction to Governance, Legislation and Ethics	4	3
251102-001-KM-10	Fundamentals of Design Thinking and Innovation	4	4
251102-001-KM-11	4IR and Future Skills	4	1

PRACTICAL SKILLS MODULES

Curriculum Code	Practical Skills Module	NQF Level	Credits
251102-001-PM-01	Apply Logical Thinking and Maths Refresher	4	3
251102-001-PM-02	Apply Code to Use a Software Toolkit/Platform in the Field of Study or Employment	4	4
251102-001-PM-03	Use Spreadsheets to Analyse and Visualise Data	4	3
251102-001-PM-04	Use a Visual Analytics Platform to Analyse and Visualise Data	5	4
251102-001-PM-05	Apply Statistical Tools and Techniques	5	4
251102-001-PM-06	Collect and Pre- Process Large Amounts of Unruly Data	5	12
251102-001-PM-07	Apply Data Analysis Techniques to Uncover Patterns and Trends in Datasets	5	12
251102-001-PM-08	Prepare and Present Descriptive Analytic Reports for Decision Making	5	12
251102-001-PM-09	Participate in a Design Thinking for Innovation Workshop	5	3
251102-001-PM-10	Collaborate Ethically and Effectively in the Workplace	5	2

WORKPLACE MODULES

Curriculum Code	Workplace Module	NQF Level	Credits
251102-001-WM-01	Data Collection and Pre- processing Processes	5	16
251102-001-WM-02	Statistical Data Analysis Processes	5	16
251102-001-WM-03	Data visualisation and Reporting Processes	5	16
251102-001-WM-04	Capstone Project Using an Appropriate Toolkit	5	12

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3. **A Qualified Learner Will Be Able To:**

- Retrieve, clean, and transform data into usable formats.
- Apply logical reasoning, programming, and statistical methods to analyse data.
- Create visual dashboards, graphs, and reports to communicate findings effectively.
- Collaborate ethically in workplace projects, applying design thinking and innovation principles.
- Integrate knowledge and practical skills in a capstone project aligned with real-world data problems.

Entry Requirements

Minimum Requirement: A National Senior Certificate or equivalent at **NQF Level 4** with Mathematics.
Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) may provide access for learners with relevant experience or competencies.

4. International Comparability

This qualification compares favourably with leading global programmes:

- **Canada:** Similar in scope and duration to the Toronto School of Management's Diploma in Data Analytics Co-op, including knowledge, practical components, and a capstone project.

- **India:** Comparable to AnalytixLabs' "Data Science with Python" course, covering similar competencies in data analysis, statistics, and visualisation.

Unlike some international courses that are vendor-specific (e.g., AWS, IBM), this qualification is **vendor-agnostic** and includes work experience and ethics modules, providing a broader professional foundation.

5. Occupational Trainer – NQF Level 4 Certification

This programme is registered as an **Occupational Certificate (Data Science Practitioner), NQF Level 5** under the **Occupational Qualifications Sub-Framework (OQSF)**.

Successful completion prepares learners for external integrated summative assessment through the QCTO.

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6. **Potential Career Opportunities**

Graduates of this programme may pursue entry-level and junior roles in data science and analytics, including:

- Data Science Practitioner
- Data Analyst Assistant / Junior Data Analyst
- Data Miner or Data Modeller
- Data Custodian
- Management Information Analyst

7. **Learning Options**

Learning may be offered through:

- **Classroom-based or blended training** with formative assessments.
- **Workplace learning** and mentorship for practical application.
- **Capstone project** integrating knowledge, practical skills, and work experience.
- **External integrated summative assessment** conducted by a QCTO-approved Assessment Quality Partner.

Contact Details

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