



## MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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### UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2023/2024

FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
NURSING AND BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

#### **NND 3126: MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

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**DATE: APRIL 2024**

**TIME: 3 HOURS**

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**INSTRUCTIONS:** Answer Question one and any other THREE questions.

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#### **QUESTION ONE (24 MARKS)**

- a) Explain the concept of '*Sociological Imagination*' that describes the insights offered by the discipline of sociology with respect to human existence in medical experiences. (6 marks)
- b) (i). Who is a social worker in reference to anthropological operations? (3 marks)  
(ii). Justify why a nurse or human nutritionist is a social worker in our community. (5 marks)
- c) State and explain the ethnomedical systems experienced in pluralistic societies in Africa today. (6 marks).
- d) Discuss the importance of schools as drivers of communities progressive cultural transmission during the 21<sup>st</sup> century. (5 marks)
- e) Discuss five reasons why bureaucracy has been labelled *red tape* and has attracted a lot of criticisms by health workers. (5 marks)

#### **QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

- a) Explain eight reasons why sociology and anthropology have significantly influenced each other in the study of human behaviour of modern communities. (14 marks)
- b) Justify six reasons for the existence of a good environment for the well-being of a community's residents. (6 marks)



### QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

a. Culture is the spring board through which communities build institutions. Match the following basic needs against their cultural responses as experienced in our communities today.

| #    | Table 1.: Basic Needs Cultural Responses |                   |
|------|--|-------------------|
|      | Basic need                               | Cultural response |
| i.   | Metabolism                               | Training          |
| ii.  | Reproduction                             | Shelter           |
| iii. | Bodily comfort                           | Protection        |
| iv.  | Safety                                   | Activities        |
| v.   | Movement                                 | Kinship           |
| vi.  | Growth                                   | Commissariat      |

b. Differentiate among the following concepts as applied in medical sociology and anthropology:

- i). Sex (2 marks)
- ii). Gender (2 marks)
- iii). Gender relations (4 marks)

### QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a. Why do you think rural communities should enable women to access psycho-social counselling and other support? (10 marks)
- b. Why do you think communities are useful for development of the well-being of their residents? (10 marks)

### QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a. (I). Differentiate between the following concepts: **value** and **norm** as practiced by medical social workers. (4 marks)  
(II). Explain the place of values among the medical social workers in Africa today. (6 marks)
- b. By giving relevant examples explain why a medical social worker should be tolerant to any community cultures. (10 marks)