



**MERU UNIVERSITY COLLEGE  
OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

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**University Examinations 2011/2012**

**FIRST YEAR, SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR  
CERTIFICATE/DIPLOMA IN AGRICULTURE**

**AGR 0121: INTRODUCTION TO RURAL SOCIOLOGY**

**DATE: DECEMBER 2011**

**TIME: 1½ HOURS**

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**INSTRUCTIONS:** *Answer question one and any other two questions*

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**QUESTION ONE – (30 MARKS)**

- (a) What is rural sociology? (3 Marks)
- (b) Describe the characteristics of rural society. (7 Marks)
- (c) Outline five social symbols and sign that are common and related to the agrarian communities. (5 Marks)
- (d) Describe the characteristic of power in leadership. (5 Marks)
- (e) Describe the characteristics of primary social group. (5 Marks)
- (f) Describe the adaption process and explain how each stage influences the adoption decision process to farmers. (5 Marks)

**QUESTION TWO – (15 MARKS)**

- (a) Explain how intergenerational mobility influences social change in rural social, system. (5 Marks)
- (b) Describe the function of a family as a social institution. (5 Marks)
- (c) Explain how culture may hinder or promote agricultural development of a society. (5 Marks)

**QUESTION THREE – (15 MARKS)**

- (a) What do you understand by the following:

- (i) Ethnocentrism
  - (ii) Internalization
  - (iii) Cultural variation
  - (iv) Counter culture
  - (v) Social stratification (5 Marks)
- (b) Culture should not be judged from outside standard but should be judged from within its context. Discuss. (10 Marks)

**QUESTION FOUR – (15 MARKS)**

- (a) Explain the characteristic categories of the farmer's adoption categories according to their rate of adoption. (15 Marks)
- (b) Explain how legitimate power is gained in a social system. (5 Marks)

**QUESTION FIVE – (15 MARKS)**

- (a) Outline the process of group decision making. (4 Marks)
- (b) War and social conflict can bring a social change in a society. Discuss. (7 Marks)
- (c) How is religion as a social institution involved in rural development? (4 Marks)