



MERU UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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University Examinations 2011/2012

FIRST YEAR, SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE /DIPLOMA
IN AGRICULTURE

AGR 0121: INTRODUCTION TO RURAL SOCIOLOGY

DATE: APRIL 2012

TIME: 1½ HOURS

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

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a. What is the significance of rural sociology to agricultural trainees (5 Marks)
- b. Explain the following terms in a sociological context:
 - i. Rural society
 - ii. Group life
 - iii. Ethnocentrism
 - iv. Cultural relativity
 - v. Ascribe status (5 Marks)
- c. Describe five aspects of group structures (5 Marks)
- d. Explain the factors that influence social change in a rural society (5 Marks)
- e. Why is the family considered as the basic unit of socialization (5 Marks)
- f. Give five symbols that are commonly used in the rural aegis in relation to the agrarian communities (5 Marks)

QUESTION TWO (15 MARKS)

- a. What are the differences between rural communities and urban communities (6 Marks)
- b. Describe the characteristics of power in leadership (5 Marks)
- c. Explain four types of social stratification? (4 Marks)

QUESTION THREE (15 MARKS)

Explain the characteristics of adopters categories in the adopter's theory (15 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR (15 MARKS)

- a. What are the roles of groups in the agricultural development (5 Marks)
- b. Explain the three forms of social mobility (6 Marks)
- c. Describe four types of social norms and in each case explain the kind of sanction they carry (4 Marks)

QUESTION FIVE (15 MARKS)

- a. Discuss how internalization of social norms may lead to social control (10 Marks)
- b. Explain the functions of a family as a social institution (5 Marks)