

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING
NURS 131 – MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

STREAMS: BSC NURS

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: THURSDAY 07/08/2025

8.30 A.M. – 10.30 A.M

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Do not write anything on this question paper.
2. Mobile phones and any other reference materials are NOT allowed in the examination room.
3. The paper has three sections. Answer ALL questions. All your answers for Section I (MCQs) should be on one page.
4. Number ALL your answers and indicate the order of appearance in the space provided in the cover page of the examination answer booklet.
5. Write your answers legibly and use your time wisely.

SECTION A: MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (1 mark each) [20 Marks]

1. What does the term “culture” refer to in medical sociology?
 - a) Biological differences among people
 - b) Laws created by governments
 - c) Shared beliefs, practices, and values of a group
 - d) Genetic makeup of a population
2. Which of the following best defines “ethnomedicine”?
 - a) Western medical practices
 - b) Medicine based on astrology
 - c) Traditional systems of healing within specific cultures
 - d) Emergency care services

3. Talcott Parsons' concept of the sick role involves:
 - a) Blaming the patient for being ill
 - b) Defining illness as a punishment
 - c) Rights and responsibilities of a sick person
 - d) Diagnosing chronic diseases
4. Which is a social determinant of health, according to the WHO?
 - a) Blood pressure
 - b) Access to clean water
 - c) Viral load
 - d) Vaccination status
5. The study of human societies, cultures, and their development is known as:
 - a) Biology
 - b) Sociology
 - c) Anthropology
 - d) Psychology
6. Medical pluralism refers to:
 - a) Using a single method of treatment
 - b) The belief in modern biomedicine only
 - c) Co-existence of different medical systems
 - d) Legal regulation of hospitals
7. One key function of social institutions in healthcare is to:
 - a) Replace doctors with machines
 - b) Regulate pollution
 - c) Structure healthcare delivery and norms
 - d) Promote superstition
8. In sociology, "norms" refer to:
 - a) Genetic behaviors
 - b) Technological advances
 - c) Expected patterns of behavior
 - d) Historical events

9. Which of the following is an example of stigma in health?
 - a) Treating all patients equally
 - b) Providing free checkups
 - c) Avoiding someone with HIV/AIDS
 - d) Promoting health education
10. Which of the following factors affects health-seeking behavior?
 - a) Geographical location only
 - b) Belief in supernatural causes of illness
 - c) Hospital furniture
 - d) The time of the year
11. Social stratification can lead to:
 - a) Equal health outcomes
 - b) Decreased illness rates
 - c) Health inequalities
 - d) More hospitals in rural areas
12. What is the main goal of medical sociology?
 - a) To learn how to diagnose patients
 - b) To study diseases
 - c) To understand how social factors influence health
 - d) To practice medicine
13. The concept of “biomedical model” primarily focuses on:
 - a) Cultural beliefs
 - b) Social behavior
 - c) Biological causes of illness
 - d) Religious practices
14. A health care system that includes traditional, biomedical, and alternative practices is an example of:
 - a) Monotherapy
 - b) Medical pluralism
 - c) Technological care
 - d) Single-payer system

15. Which of these is not a social institution?
- a) Family
 - b) Religion
 - c) Education
 - d) Blood group
16. Which factor most influences cultural competence in nursing?
- a) The nurse's education only
 - b) The patient's diagnosis
 - c) Understanding patient values and beliefs
 - d) Medical technologies
17. The professional-patient relationship should be built on:
- a) Suspicion and control
 - b) Distance and silence
 - c) Trust and communication
 - d) Authority and obedience
18. Which theory describes illness behavior as influenced by social expectations?
- a) Evolutionary theory
 - b) Conflict theory
 - c) Parsons' sick role theory
 - d) Germ theory
19. Which of the following describes a culturally sensitive nursing practice?
- a) Ignoring traditional beliefs
 - b) Forcing Western treatments
 - c) Respecting diverse health beliefs
 - d) Avoiding patient preferences
20. Globalization has contributed to:
- a) Local isolation
 - b) Decreased communication
 - c) Migration and spread of health practices
 - d) Elimination of disease

SECTION B: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (5 marks each) [30 Marks]

1. Define sociology and anthropology and explain how each discipline contributes to nursing practice. (5 marks)
 2. Briefly explain the concept of social determinants of health and give two examples relevant to your community. (5 marks)
 3. Discuss the impact of cultural beliefs on health-seeking behavior with at least two examples. (5 marks)
 4. Describe three features of traditional health systems and how they differ from biomedical systems. (5 marks)
 5. Explain the concept of stigma in chronic illness using HIV/AIDS or mental illness as an example. (5 marks)
 6. Highlight the significance of the professional-patient relationship in delivering culturally competent care. (5 marks)
-

SECTION C: LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (10 marks each) [20 Marks]

1. Discuss the influence of social stratification (class, gender, and ethnicity) on access to health care and health outcomes. Provide examples from local or global contexts. (10 marks)
 2. Analyze the importance of applying sociological and anthropological concepts to community health nursing. How can nurses incorporate cultural sensitivity and understanding of social contexts into their care? (10 marks)
-