



**AMREF INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF NURSING & MIDWIFERY SCIENCES  
END OF SEMESTER AUGUST 2024 EXAMINATIONS**

**COURSE CODE AND TITLE: BSN 216 - MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY**

**DATE:**

Duration: 2 HOURS

Start:

Finish:

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. This exam is out of 70 marks
2. This Examination comprises THREE Sections. Section I: Multiple Choice Questions (20 marks) Section II: Short Answer Questions (30 marks) and Section III: Long Answer Questions (20 marks)
3. Answer ALL Questions.
4. Do Not write anything on the question paper -use the back of your booklet for rough work if need be.

**SECTION I: MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS****(20 MARKS)**

1. Anthropology is \_\_\_\_.
  - A. The study of Western culture primarily through the analysis of its folklore
  - B. The study of humankind everywhere, throughout time
  - C. The study of nonhuman primates through an analysis of their myth and folklore
  - D. The analysis of humankind from the subjective perspective of one group
  
2. Behavioural science helps nurses to manage stress in patients by:
  - A. Increasing their physical endurance
  - B. Providing strategies for coping and relaxation
  - C. Offering advanced technical training
  - D. Reducing the need for medication
  
3. The belief that one's own culture is superior to another is;-
  - A. Cultural relativism
  - B. Ethnocentrism
  - C. Prejudice
  - D. Patriotism
  
4. The following is characteristic of the anthropological approach;-
  - A. An emphasis on biological explanations of cultural variation
  - B. Ethnocentrism
  - C. An emphasis on shared customs and institutions
  - D. An emphasis on the individual
  
5. The following best explains the contribution of anthropology to the field of development;-
  - A. Anthropologists can help make sure that global institutions like the World Bank can gain access to remote communities
  - B. Anthropologists can work to make sure that development projects do not happen in communities, as they are usually colonialist endeavours
  - C. Anthropologists can make sure that local communities will not pose any resistance to development projects
  - D. Anthropologist can work to make sure that local culture, society, and knowledge is taken into consideration when new development projects are proposed -
  
6. Anthropology includes the study of all of the following except:
  - A. How humans vary biologically
  - B. Why contemporary people have different cultures
  - C. When humans first appeared on earth
  - D. How cultures change over time
  
7. The following best describes the relationship between society and culture;-
  - A. Society is defined by a broad set of abstract concepts such as values and beliefs, while culture is the physical embodiment of these concepts.

- B. The development of a shared set of cultural artifacts and norms fosters a group identity that becomes a society.
  - C. Through their interactions, people define the boundaries of their society and create shared products and meanings that constitute their culture.
  - D. Unlike culture, which is an unchanging set of customs and traditions, society is in a state of constant flux.
8. In the study of medical anthropology, "illness narratives" are:
- A. Statistical reports on disease incidence and prevalence.
  - B. Stories individuals tell about their experiences with illness and healthcare.
  - C. Official medical records kept by healthcare providers.
  - D. Scientific papers detailing the biological basis of diseases.
9. The statement that best differentiates disease and illness is; -
- A. Disease refers to the subjective experience of symptoms, while illness refers to the biomedical understanding of health.
  - B. Disease is the objective, biological condition diagnosed by a medical professional, while illness is the subjective experience of symptoms and suffering.
  - C. Disease is a concept used only in Western biomedicine, while illness is used in traditional healing practices.
  - D. Disease is a temporary health condition, while illness is a chronic health condition.
10. "Health disparities" in medical anthropology refer to:-
- A. Differences in health outcomes and access to healthcare among different population groups.
  - B. Variations in disease symptoms among individuals with the same condition.
  - C. The effectiveness of different medical treatments across various diseases.
  - D. The distribution of healthcare facilities in urban and rural areas.
11. Understanding a patient's cultural background helps;-
- A. To enforce compliance with medical protocols regardless of personal beliefs
  - B. To create treatment plans that integrate the patient's health beliefs, practices, and preferences
  - C. To reduce the time spent on patient education and explanation of medical procedures
  - D. To standardize care across different cultural groups for consistency
12. Healthcare providers can address cultural differences in health beliefs and practices;-
- A. By disregarding cultural differences to maintain a standard approach to healthcare
  - B. By educating patients to replace their traditional beliefs with evidence-based medical knowledge
  - C. By incorporating culturally sensitive approaches, such as respecting traditional healing practices and using culturally appropriate communication techniques
  - D. By strictly following medical protocols without considering cultural variations

13. The unique aspects of cultural anthropology is;-
- A. Spending long periods living in the communities they study
  - B. The use of questionnaires in their fieldwork
  - C. The collection of quantitative behaviour data
  - D. Subjecting people to laboratory experimentation
14. According to P.S. Cohen, cohesion may be due to any of the following except:
- A. Allegiance to the larger unit
  - B. Poor overall coordination
  - C. Mutual interest or interdependence;
  - D. Intersection of ties;
15. The following are elements of culture is:
- A. Learned
  - B. Unshared
  - C. Disorganized
  - D. Documented
16. The following is a correct definition of cultural norms;-
- A. They are rules and regulations that govern behaviour in any society, defining appropriate and acceptable behaviour.
  - B. They are socially unaccepted patterns of behaviour.
  - C. They are decided upon by one elder in the community
  - D. They function as a social control mechanism and brings out no uniformity.
17. The type of socialization that involves internalizing societal norms and values that are necessary to function in broader society;-
- A. Anticipatory Socialization
  - B. Primary Socialization
  - C. Secondary Socialization
  - D. Resocialization
18. The term for the norms that are widely observed and have great moral significance in a culture is;-
- A. Mores
  - B. Folks
  - C. Taboos
  - D. Lows
19. The following is an example of a cultural universal;-
- A. The practice of democracy
  - B. The use of smartphones
  - C. The institution of marriage
  - D. The celebration of Christmas
20. The following can impact a patient's trust in healthcare providers, thereby influencing their choice of treatment;-
- A. The patient's dietary habits
  - B. The healthcare provider's communication and empathy
  - C. The geographical location of the healthcare provider
  - D. The weather conditions at the time of treatment

**SECTION II: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS** (30 MARKS)

1. State three (3) reasons for studying anthropology in health sciences (3 marks)
2. Demonstrate with examples, the impact of kinship on each of the following:
  - i. Health disparities (3 marks)
  - ii. Stigma associated with certain diseases (3 marks)
3. State five (5) characteristics of culture (5 marks)
4. State four (4) strengths of traditional medicine (4 marks)
5. State four (4) factors that contribute to the choice and source of treatment (4 marks)
6. Describe status ranking in society (4 marks)
7. Describe four (4) responsibilities of medical personnel according to Talcott Parsons (4 marks)

**SECTION III: LONG ANSWER QUESTION** – (20 MARKS)

1. The interplay between social-cultural factors and technological advancements shapes public health outcomes and cultural dynamics;-
  - a) Analyse five (5) social-cultural challenges faced by the Kenyan (or your country's) healthcare system in addressing public health issues such as HIV/AIDS. (10 marks)
  - b) Discuss five (5) impacts of technology on culture (10 marks)