



# MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2016/2017

SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR DEGREE IN  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (POPULATION HEALTH)

PPH 112: SOCIO-MEDICAL SCIENCES IN PUBLIC HEALTH

DATE: 30/5/2017

TIME: 2:00 – 4:00 PM

---

## INSTRUCTIONS

*This paper consists of two sections A and B*

*Section A is compulsory*

*Section B choose any two (2) questions*

*Illustrate your answer with neat, clear and well labeled diagrams as appropriate*

## SECTION A (COMPULSORY)

### QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Define the following terms (1 mark)
  - i. Culture
  - ii. Society
- b) Distinguish between illness and disease (2 marks)
- c) Explain how culture can impact negatively on health (3 marks)
- d) With appropriate examples, explain what is meant by medicalization (3 marks)
- e) Explain how Marxists view the causes of ill health (3 marks)
- f) Explain the major characteristics of culture (3 marks)

- g) State three (3) advantages and disadvantages of traditional medicine (3 marks)
- h) Define social change and highlight some of the factors that cause such change (3 marks)
- i) Identify a health promotion activity of your choice and explain how it can impact positively on health (3 marks)
- j) Explain the social determinants that influence health in Kenya (3 marks)
- k) Explain how a country's political situation can affect health (3 marks)

**SECTION B: CHOOSE ANY TWO (2) QUESTIONS. EACH QUESTION IS 20 MARKS**

**QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

- a) Integration of traditional medicine into Kenya's health sector could have a significant impact on the delivery of health care services. Discuss this statement highlighting the merits and demerits (10 marks)
- b) Explain the ways through which the challenges associated with cross cultural communication can be overcome (10 marks)

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Discuss the relationship between poverty and health problems in Kenya (10 marks)
- b) Explain the role of medical sociology in health system development (10 marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) Explain the disadvantages of the biomedical model of health (10 marks)
- b) With appropriate examples, explain the various illness causation theories found among different cultures (10 marks)

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Explain the challenges facing the utilization of African medicinal plants (10 marks)
- b) Discuss how the changing social conditions can influence health (10 marks)