



*University of Choice*

**MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
(MMUST)**

**UNIVERSITY MAIN EXAMINATION  
2022/2023 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**MAIN CAMPUS**

**SECOND YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS  
FOR THE DEGREE IN DISASTER MITIGATION AND SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT**

**COURSE CODE: DSM 205**

**COURSE TITLE: DISASTERS, SOCIETY AND SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT**

**DATE: 21/4/2023**

**TIME: 12-2 PM**

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Question **ONE (1)** is compulsory  
Answer **ANY TWO (2)** OTHER questions

**MMUST observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating**

This Paper Consists of 2 Printed Pages. Please Turn Over.

## QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY)

- (a) Using relevant examples, define the following terms:
- i) Society (2 marks)
  - ii) Hazard (2 marks)
  - iii) Disaster (2 marks)
  - iv) Vulnerability (2 marks)
  - iv) Resilience (2 marks)
- (b) Identify the types of societies highlighting their key characteristics. (4 Marks)
- (c) Explain why a hazard can be a disaster in one community and not in another. Illustrate your answer with examples. (4 Marks)
- (d) Evaluate the social factors that contribute to high vulnerability to natural and technological disasters in Kenya. (8 Marks)
- (e) State and explain the elements of disaster risk (4 Marks)

## QUESTION TWO

- (a) Define the term sustainable livelihood. (2 Marks)
- (b) Discuss the assets which constitute sustainable livelihoods. (10 Marks)
- (c) Explain how livelihoods assets could contribute to increased vulnerability when they interact with a hazard. (4 Marks)
- (d) Describe the importance of mainstreaming disaster risk into development plans. (4 Marks)

## QUESTION THREE

- (a) Elaborate how poverty can be a cause and product of disasters in society. (10 Marks)
- (b) What are key characteristics of a modern society and its implications in disaster patterns? (5 Marks)
- (c) Using the tale of the three pigs, discuss how development contributes to a disaster resilient society. (5 Marks)

## QUESTION FOUR

- (a) With examples, explain four characteristics of hazards. (5 Marks)
- (b) Outline how globalization can contribute to vulnerability to disasters. (10 Marks)
- (c) Explain how urbanization can increase vulnerability to disasters (5 marks)