AEC 303: Introduction to Rural Sociology

COURSE PARTICULARS

Course Code: AEC 303
Course Title: Introduction to Rural Sociology
No. of Units: 2
Course Duration: Two hours of theory per week for 15 weeks
Status: Compulsory
Course E-mail Address:
Course Webpage: NIL
Prerequisite: Nil

COURSE INSTRUCTOR

Dr. S.D.Y Alfred
Room 230, SAAT Building
Dept. of Agricultural Extension and Communication Technology
Federal University of Technology, Akure, Nigeria
Phone: +2348035386514
E-mail: sdyalfred@futa.edu.ng

and

Dr. O. O. Odefadehan
Room 005, SAAT Annex
Dept. of Agricultural Extension and Communication Technology
Federal University of Technology, Akure, Nigeria
Phone: +234706641990
E-mail: oodefadehan@futa.edu.ng

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introductory one intended to expose the students to rural life studies. As agricultural extension trainees, the students need to be intimated and well informed about social life in the rural society in terms of culture, values, norms, beliefs and economic livelihoods. Therefore, the course is planned to arm the students on how to be effective and proficient in the art of working with the farmers, having understood how the rural dwellers interact sand interrelate on the premises of the values they hold on to. Topic to be covered include; Meaning and Scope of Rural sociology, Basic sociological Concepts, Major Social Institutions, social Groups
and Social Processes. Other topics also include: Social Stratification and social Mobility, Diffusion Process in Agricultural Innovation and Challenges of Rural Development in Nigeria.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this course are to:

- Introduce the students to social rural studies
- Expose the students to the interrelationships in rural life
- Prepare the students for work among the rural farmers

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the students will be able to

- Explain the concept of rural sociology
- Explain some sociological concepts
- Describe the major characteristics of social institution
- Discuss the implications of social stratification and social mobility in the rural areas
- State the stages of diffusion and adoption process

**GRADING SYSTEM FOR THE COURSE**

This course will be graded as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Attendance</th>
<th>5%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test(s)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

- Students must make 75% attendance before being allowed to sit for the final examination
- Assignments must be adequately referenced

**COURSE OUTLINE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>REMARKS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Meaning, Nature and Scope of Rural Sociology</td>
<td>Students will be asked to differentiate between rural sociology and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Expected Outcomes</td>
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<td>------</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Rural Sociology as a science; problem identification, hypothesis testing etc.</td>
<td>Students will be asked to list the characteristics of science and how they relate with rural sociology</td>
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<tr>
<td>3,4,5,</td>
<td>Basic sociological Concepts; Society, Values, Norms Beliefs etc</td>
<td>Students will be able to define the terminologies</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Social stratification and Social Mobility</td>
<td>Students will be asked to relate these two concepts to the rural settings</td>
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<tr>
<td>7,8,9</td>
<td>Major Social Institutions; Family, Education, Religion Economy and Political</td>
<td>Students will be able to relate the Social institutions with agricultural extension (MID-SEMESTER TEST)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 &amp; 11</td>
<td>Social Groups and Social Processes</td>
<td>Students will be asked to suggest case studies for social process they are used to</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 &amp; 13</td>
<td>Social change and diffusion in Agricultural Innovation Adoption</td>
<td>Students will understand the stages of diffusion and adoption process</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Challenges of Rural Development in Nigeria</td>
<td>Students will be asked to suggest solutions to the identified challenges</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>REVISION</td>
<td>This is the week preceding the final examination. There will be evaluation to assess how far the students expectation for the course has been met</td>
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