

MSO

Master's Degree Programme in Sociology

**First Year
M.A. Sociology**

**Assignment
July 2014 and January 2015 sessions**

Assignment for the Core Courses:

MSO-001: Sociological Theories and Concepts
MSO-002: Research Methodologies and Methods
MSO-003: Sociology of Development
MSO-004: Sociology in India



**FACULTY OF SOCIOLOGY
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110068**

ASSIGNMENTS

Dear Student

We have explained in the Programme Guide for the Master's Degree Programme in Sociology (MA Sociology) that you would have to complete one **Tutor** Marked Assignment (TMAs) for each of the courses.

In these assignments, we have included several types of questions to sharpen your ability, to describe, to analyse and to critique, and to ensure that you know and are able to write over a topic systematically and coherently. In these assignments there are some broad descriptive and analytical questions. There are 10 questions in each assignment, with two sections. In each section there are five questions.

Your answers for a broad question worth 20 marks should be within the approximate range of 500 words each. In case of short question worth 10 marks it should be within 250 words each. It could be advisable to have a group discussion on the questions with your co-learners and the Academic Counsellors in the Study Centres before you attempt these assignments. Remember you are encouraged only to share each other's ideas and not to copy answers at all. Group discussion and constant practice of writing answers to assignment questions will help you to write better answers to questions in the term-end examination. It is important that you write answers to all questions **in your own words**.

Admission Cycle	Date of Submission	To be sent
For students admitted in July 2014 Batch	31 st March, 2015	To, The Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you
For students admitted in January 2015 Batch	30 th September, 2015	

You must **obtain a receipt from the Study Centre for the assignments submitted and retain it**. If possible, keep a xerox copy of the assignments with you. The Study Centre will have to return the assignments to you after they are evaluated. Please insist on this. The Study Centre has to send the marks to the SR&E Division at IGNOU, New Delhi.

Some Tips for Doing Assignments

You will find it useful to keep the following points in mind while doing the assignments:

- 1) **Planning:** Read the assignments carefully; go through the units on which they are based. Make some points regarding each question and then rearrange them in a logical order.
- 2) **Organization:** Be selective and analytical before drawing up a rough outline of your answer. Give adequate attention to the introduction and conclusion.
- 3) **Presentation:** Once you are satisfied with your answer, you can write down the final version for submission. Write each answer neatly and underling the points you wish to emphasize. Make sure that the answer is within the stipulated word limit.

Wishing you all the best

Programme Coordinator
MA Sociology
Faculty of Sociology
School of Social Sciences
IGNOU, New Delhi – 110 068

Indira Gandhi National Open University
Core Course in M.A. Sociology
MSO-001: Sociological Theories and Concepts
Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA)

Maximum Marks: 100
Weightage: 30%

Programme Code: MSO
Course Code: MSO-001
Assignment Code: MSO-001/AST/TMA/2014-15

Answer *five* questions by selecting at least *two* questions from each Section. Your answer should be in about *500* words each.

Section - I

	Marks
1. Explain the relationship between theory and paradigm.	20
2. Critically examine the theory of neo-functionalism.	20
3. Discuss the concept of social reality in the context of symbolic universe.	20
4. What is power? Discuss the instruments of power.	20
5. Explain the concept of liberty in the writings of Isaiah Berlin.	20

Section - II

6. What is sovereignty? Discuss the difference between internal and external sovereignty.	20
7. What is modernity? Discuss Giddens' concept of modernity.	20
8. Examine the relationship between identity and identification.	20
9. Discuss Foucault's approach towards understanding of society.	20
10. What are the basic assumptions of the concept of class? Discuss Karl Marx's perspective on class.	20

Indira Gandhi National Open University
Core Course in M.A. Sociology
MSO-002: Research Methodologies and Methods
Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA)

Maximum Marks: 100
Weightage : 30%

Programme Code: MSO
Course Code : MSO-002
Assignment Code: MSO-002/AST/TMA/2014-15

Answer any two of the following questions

Section-I

- | | | |
|----|--|----|
| 1. | Discuss the major concerns in epistemology. | 25 |
| 2. | Discuss the contributions of Comte and Durkheim towards a positivism as methodological approach. | 25 |
| 3. | Outline the relevance of survey method in social science research. | 25 |
| 4. | Discuss the significance of correlation and regression as statistical tools in social research. | 25 |
| 5. | Highlights the critical features of Comparative Method. | 25 |

Section-II

Write a research report on any one of the following topics in about 3000 words.

- | | | |
|----|---|----|
| 6. | Use of participatory method in social science research. | 50 |
| 7. | Images of women in the electronic media | 50 |
| 8. | Relevance of caste in contemporary politics. | 50 |

You can write this report based on review of literature, or data collected from the primary sources.

For review of literature you are to select either two books or four research articles published recently on the selected topic of your choice. Write a review article focusing on the location of the study, methodology followed and the main findings of these studies.

For the primary source you are to collect two case studies and write a report on the selected topic in a comparative framework. While writing the report spell out clearly the objectives and the problems of the study and

- problematise the issue within the existing/available literature,
- elaborate your observations, finding, and conclusion , and
- make proper referencing at the end.

Indira Gandhi National Open University
Core Course in Sociology: MSO-003
Sociology of Development
Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA)

Maximum Marks: 100
Weightage: 30%

Programme Code: MSO
Course Code: MSO-003
Assignment Code: MSO-003/AST/TMA/2014-2015

Answer any *five* questions selecting at least *two* from each of the section. Your answer should be in about 500 words each.

Section – I

1. What are the multiple dimension associated with the term development? 20
2. Bring out the salient features of liberal perspective on Development. 20
3. Critically examine the Marxian perspective on Development. 20
4. What do you understand by ‘social development’, how is it different from growth oriented development? 20

Section – II

5. Examine the social dimension of globalisation in the Indian context. 20
6. Critically examine the Structural Adjustment Programme adopted by the Indian State. 20
7. Bring out the debates revolving around large dams in India, with suitable examples. 20
8. Examine the significance of NGOs, as civil society actors. 20

Indira Gandhi National Open University
Core Course in M.A. Sociology
MSO-004: Sociology in India
Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA)

Maximum Marks: 100
Weightage: 30%

Programme Code: MSO
Course Code: MSO-004
Assignment Code: MSO-004/AST/TMA/2014-15

Answer any five questions. Attempt at least two from each section: Your answer should be about 500 words each. All question carry equal marks.

Section-I

1. Describe the historical roots of Indian sociology. 20
2. Discuss some of the major research trends in Indian sociology during the nineteen seventies 20
3. What is the colonial perspective on caste system? 20
4. Discuss critically the significance of joint and nuclear family in India. 20
5. Describe the classical notion of undifferentiated peasant society given by T. Shanin. 20

Section-II

6. Discuss critically the debate between Verrier Elwin and G.S Ghurey regarding tribes in India. 20
7. Does religion play a cohesive role in Indian? Discuss critically. 20
8. What do you understand by “globalization”? Examine its impact on Indian society. 20
9. Are the processes of migration and urbanization interlinked? Discuss 20
10. What are new social movements? How are they different from the earlier movements. 20