

MSO

Master's Degree Programme in Sociology

First Year
M.A. Sociology

Assignment
July 2022 and January 2023 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-110 068

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 2022 Batch	31 st March, 2023	To, The Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you
For students admitted in January 2023 Batch	30 th September, 2023	

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 underlining the points you wish to emphasize. Make sure that the answer is within the stipulated word limit.

Wishing you all the best,

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

Programme Code: MSO

Course Code: MSO-001

Assignment Code: MSO-001/AST/TMA/2022-23

Maximum Marks: 100

Weightage: 30%

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

Marks

Section-I

- | | | |
|----|---|----|
| 1. | Explain the relationship between theory and paradigm. | 20 |
| 2. | Compare and contrast the functional approaches of Radcliffe-Brown and Malinowski. | 20 |
| 3. | Explain the concept of liberty in the writings of Isaiah Berlin. | 20 |
| 4. | What is neo-functionalism? Examine its strengths and limitations. | 20 |
| 5. | Discuss the concept of Social Structure as a model. | 20 |

Section-II

- | | | |
|-----|--|----|
| 6. | Examine the relationship between identity and identification. | 20 |
| 7. | What is sovereignty? Discuss the difference between internal and external sovereignty. | 20 |
| 8. | Critically examine the concept of Alienation. | 20 |
| 9. | Explain the functional perspective on social stratification. | 20 |
| 10. | Discuss Foucault's approach of 'archaeology of knowledge' to understand society. | 20 |

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

Programme Code : MSO
Course Code : MSO-002
Assignment Code: MSO-002/AST/TMA/2022-23

Maximum Marks : 100
Weightage : 30%

Answer questions from both the sections.

Marks

Section –A

Answer any *two* of the following questions

- | | |
|---|----|
| 1. What is phenomenology? Explain with reference to the contribution of Martin Heidegger. | 25 |
| 2. What is positivism? Discuss Giddens's critique of positivism. | 25 |
| 3. Explain the comparative method. Discuss its scope in social science research. | 25 |
| 4. Discuss the participatory approach to social research. Compare and contrast it with conventional research methodology. | 25 |
| 5. Critically examine the nature and scope of feminist method in social science research. | 25 |

Section-B

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

- | | |
|--|----|
| 1. Change in family structure and familial relations in India. | 50 |
| 2. Significance of open and distance learning in democratization of education. | 50 |
| 3. Relevance of quantitative method of analysis in sociological research. | 50 |

You can write this report based either 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 coherently, and
- make proper referencing at the end.

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

Programme Code: MSO
Course Code: MSO-003
Assignment Code: MSO-003/AST/TMA/2022-23

Maximum Marks: 100
Weightage: 30%

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

Marks

Section -I

- | | |
|---|----|
| 1. What is Development? Contrast the evolutionary models of development as elaborated by Marx and Parsons. | 20 |
| 2. Discuss in detail the concept of Modernization and its various perspectives with examples. | 20 |
| 3. What is Sustainable Development? Discuss critically the future of sustainable development in the context of globalization. | 20 |
| 4. What is knowledge/Information Society? Analyze the role of the role of knowledge and ICTs in empowering communities. | 20 |
| 5. Discuss critically the social dimensions of globalization in India. | 20 |

Section-II

- | | |
|---|----|
| 6. Discuss the changing perspectives on women's development. | 20 |
| 7. Write a critique of the Marxian perspective of development. | 20 |
| 8. Describe dependency theory? | 20 |
| 9. Discuss the role of civil society for the empowerment of the marginalized sections of the society. | 20 |
| 10. Discuss the Gandhian perspective on development. | 20 |

Indira Gandhi National Open University
Masters in Sociology
MSO-004: Sociology in India
Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA)

Programme Code: MSO

Course Code: MSO-004

Assignment Code: MSO-004/AST/TMA/2022-23

Maximum Marks: 100

Weightage: 30%

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

Section-I

1. Describe and discuss the socio-historical background of the emergence of Sociology in India. 20
2. Discuss with suitable examples the major research trends in Sociology in India. 20
3. Define the concept of caste and discuss the colonial perspective on caste with suitable examples. 20
4. Explain with examples the forces of social and technological changes that impact the family institution in India. 20
5. Distinguish between North Indian and South Indian kinship system. 20

Section-II

6. What are the major agrarian classes in India? Discuss with reference to the contributions of different Sociologists. 20
7. Discuss the main features of middle class in India with suitable examples. 20
8. Discuss critically the concepts of caste, class and gender in India. 20
9. How does migration affect the rural and urban societies both during a social or natural disaster like an epidemic or earthquake. 20
10. Write short notes on any two of the following: 20
 - a) Concept of urban and urbanism
 - b) Globalisation in India
 - c) Social movements: Old and New
 - d) Social change and its impact on marriage pattern in India.