

MFC-001	MFC-002
MFC-003	MFC-004
MFC-006	MFC-007
MFC-008	MFC-009

**MASTER'S OF ARTS
M.A. IN FOLKLORE AND CULTURE
STUDIES(MAFCS)**

ASSIGNMENTS July 2024 & January 2025

- MFC-001: FOLKLORE AND CULTURE:
CONCEPTUAL PERSPECTIVES**
- MFC-002: TRADITION, IDENTITY AND CULTURAL
PRODUCTION**
- MFC-003: CULTURAL AND SOCIETAL
TRANSFORMATION**
- MFC-004: TRIBES OF INDIA: IDENTITY, CULTURE
AND LORE**
- MFC-006: FOLKLORE: CANON, MULTIMEDIAITY,
INTERDISCIPLINARITY AND SOCIAL
EPISTEMOLOGY**
- MFC-007: THEORIES AND PEDAGOGY OF FOLKLORE**
- MFC-008: FOLK REPRESENTATIONS**
- MFC-009: APPROACHES TO FOLKLORE**



**School of Inter-disciplinary
and Transdisciplinary Studies
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068**

**ASSIGNMENT
FOR
MA IN FOLKLORE AND CULTURE STUDIES
MFC 001 TO MFC -009**

**Programme: MAFCS
Course Code: MFC-001, MFC-002, MFC-003, MFC-004, MFC-006,
MFC-007, MFC-008 & MFC-009/2024-25**

Dear Learners,

You are required to do one assignment for each Course (MFC-001 TO MFC-009, MFC-005 being a project paper) of the PG Diploma in Folklore and Culture Studies. Each assignment is a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) and carries 100 marks. Each assignment covers the entire course.

Aims: This TMA is concerned mainly with assessing your application and understanding of the course material. You are not required to reproduce chunks of information from the course material but to apply the information you have acquired during the course of study. This assignment aims to teach as well as to assess your performance. Please ensure that you read all the units of the course. Do make points as you go along. If there is anything you do not understand, please ask the Counsellors at your Study Centre for clarification. Once you are able to do the assignment satisfactorily, you will be ready to take the Term-end exam with confidence.

Instructions: Before attempting the assignment, please read the following instructions carefully.

1. Read the detailed instructions about the assignment given in the Programme Guide.
2. Write your Enrolment Number, Name, Full Address and Date on the top right corner of the first page of your response sheet(s).
3. Write the Course Title, Assignment Number and the Name of the Study Centre you are attached to, in the centre of the first page of your response sheet(s).

The top of the first page of your response sheet should look like this:

ENROLMENT NO.....
NAME.....
ADDRESS.....
COURSE TITLE:.....
ASSIGNMENT NO:.....
STUDY **CENTRE:**.....**DATE:**
.....

4. Use only A4 paper size for your assignment and tag all the pages carefully.
5. Write the relevant question number with each answer.
6. You should write the answer in your own handwriting.

7. **Submission:** The completed assignment should be sent to the Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you as per the dates given on the University website i.e. www.ignou.ac.in Please read the instructions given in your Programme Guide.
8. These assignment questions are valid for the 2024 and 2025

Now read the following guidelines carefully before answering the questions.

GUIDELINES FOR TMAs

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

1. **Planning:** Read the questions carefully. Go through the points on which they are based. Make some points regarding each question and then rearrange these in a logical order. And please write the answers in your own words. Do not reproduce passages from the units.
2. **Organisation:** Be a little more selective and analytic before drawing up a rough outline of your answer. In an essay-type question, give adequate attention to your introduction and conclusion. The introduction must offer your brief interpretation of the question and how you propose to develop it. The conclusion must summarize your response to the question. In the course of your answer, you may like to make references to other texts or books as this will add some depth to your analysis.

Make sure that your answer:

- (a) is logical and coherent;
- (b) has clear connections between sentences and paragraphs;
- (c) is written correctly giving adequate consideration to your expression, style and presentation;
- (d) does not exceed the number of words indicated in the question.

3. **Presentation:** Once you are satisfied with your answers, you can write down the final version for submission, writing each answer neatly and underlining the points you wish to emphasize.

Remember that you must submit your assignments before you can appear for the Term End Exams. Please remember to keep a copy of your completed assignment, just in case the one you submitted is lost in transit.

Good luck with your work!

MFC-001 FOLKLORE AND CULTURE: CONCEPTUAL PERSPECTIVES

TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT

Course Code	: MFC-001
Course Title	: Folklore and Culture: Conceptual Perspectives
Assignment Code	: MFC-001/TMA-01/2024-25
Coverage	: All Blocks

Maximum Marks 100

Attempt all questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Explain the genres belonging to folklore studies. Discuss with suitable examples. (20)
2. Examine the interrelationships among 'tribal', 'folk' and 'classical' cultures and discuss some of the problems faced by the strict/rigid definitions of culture. (20)
3. What is the subversive potential of folk forms? Discuss in detail-- whether they are live performances, literature or oral traditions. (20)
4. Define the following:
(A) Language death
(B) Sanskritization and Palace Paradigm
(C) Folklore studies in Indian and Western context.
(D) Conservation and preservation: some legal and ethical issues (4x5)
5. Write short notes on the following:
(A) Women's protest against patriarchy.
(B) Heritage and cultural construct.
(C) Archives.
(D) Oral and written traditions. (4x5)

(4x5)

MFC-002 TRADITION, IDENTITY AND CULTURAL PRODUCTION

TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT

Course Code	: MFC-002
Course Title	: Tradition, Identity and Cultural Production
Assignment Code	: MFC-002/TMA-01/2024-25
Coverage	: All Blocks

Maximum Marks 100

Attempt all questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. ' Tradition can be described as the culturally sustained, repeated pattern of behaviors, beliefs or enactments that are passed down from one generation to another' —Critically comment. (20)
2. Attempt a critical essay on the implication of studies of diasporas in identity formation (20)
3. Can technology and folk art be complementary to each other? Validate your judgment with examples. (20)
4. Define the following:
 - Technological development and social change
 - Modern thought and cultural change
 - Political thought and the rise of nations
 - Visual Arts and Performing Arts(4x5)
5. Write short notes on the following:
 - (A) Folk cuisine
 - (B) Freudian psychology
 - (C) Knowledge based traditions
 - (B) Mourning songs as folklore(4x5)

MFC-003 CULTURAL AND SOCIETAL TRANSFORMATION

TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT

Course Code	: MFC-003
Course Title	: Cultural and Societal Transformation
Assignment Code	: MFC-003/TMA-01/2024-25
Coverage	: All Blocks

Maximum Marks 100

Attempt all questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss genre, limits of genre classification and genre taxonomy in historical perspective. (20)
 2. Discuss the concept of folkloristic in visual art and its contribution to the development of TV programs, documentaries, advertisements and films. (20)
 3. Attempt a critical essay on the fluid nature of the two categories of Tribe and Caste in Indian context. (20)
 4. Differentiate the following:
(A) 'Minor' and 'Major' Indian languages.
(B) 'Folk' in pre-modern and modern Indian literature.
(C) Folk forms: Verbal / Oral and Non-verbal.
(D) Sanskritization and great- little- traditions. (4x5)
 5. Write short notes on the following:
 - Modern narratives.
 - 'Folk' and modern narratives: 'tradition' and 'modern' narratives.
 - Examples of folk and pre-modern written narratives in literatures of the world
 - Folk and gender studies(4x5)
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MFC-004 TRIBES OF INDIA: IDENTITY, CULTURE AND LORE

TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT

Course Code	: MFC-004
Course Title	: Tribes of India : Identity, Culture and Lore
Assignment Code	: MFC-004/TMA-01/2024-25
Coverage	: All Blocks

Maximum Marks 100

Attempt all questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Write a brief overview on tribes of India on the basis of types of activity -- migrant, hunting-gathering and cultivating. What are the historical themes in the etiological tales of the tribes?
(20)
2. What are the social structures and gender stereotypes that the tribes of India use for asserting their identity?
(20)
3. What are the political processes of the Indian constitution that define the relation between tribe, politics and development.
(20)
4. Distinguish the following:
(A) Migrant laborers and tribal laborers.
(B) Groups and sub-groups of Indian tribes.
(C) Etiological tales and written traditions.
(D) Hunting and Gathering tribes and Nomadic tribes.
(4x5)
5. Write short notes on the following:
(A) Mongoloids
(B) Seasonal migration as a strategy of survival.
(C) Tribes and the 'others'
(D) Mendicant nomads of West Bengal

(4x5)

**MFC-006 : FOLKLORE: CANON, MULTIMEDIALITY,
INTERDISCIPLINARITY AND SOCIAL
EPISTEMOLOGY**

TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT

Course Code	:	MFC-006
Course Title	:	Folklore: Canon, Multimediality, Interdisciplinarity and Social Epistemology
Assignment Code	:	MFC-006/TMA-01/2024-25
Coverage	:	All Blocks

Maximum Marks 100

Answer any 5 questions. All questions carry equal marks. (20 X 5 = 100)

1. Explain 'Çultural Milieu' in the context of emergent contemporary trends of Folk literature. 20
2. What are the broad genres in folklore? What are he literary theories that you may apply for the interpretation of folk literature? 20
3. Write a critical note on the relationship between folklore and other allied disciplines. 20
4. How did the rise of romanticism and nationalism influence the development of folklore as a mainstream discourse in Indian universities? Explain with examples. 20
5. What do you understand by textual and non-textual orality in Indian folk tradition? What is oral-written continuum? 20
6. Write short notes on the following: (10x2=20)
 - a) Indian tribal poetry
 - b) Scripto-centric Phono-centric and Body-centric approaches to folklore

MFC-007 : THEORIES AND PEDAGOGY OF FOLKLORE

TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT

Course Code	:	MFC-007
Course Title	:	Theories and Pedagogy of Folklore
Assignment Code	:	MFC-007/TMA-01/2024-25
Coverage	:	All Blocks

Maximum Marks 100

Answer any 5 questions. All questions carry equal marks. (20 X 5 = 100)

1. Highlight the salient features of different schools of thought in folklore studies. 20
2. What are the impacts of Evolutionary and Devolutionary ideas vis-à-vis folklore? 20
3. How do dreams play a significant role in the formation of myths in a society? What are the folk thoughts of Sigmund Freud regarding dream interpretations? 20
4. How are the concept of national and nationalism interconnected? Do you think that national identity is a repository of regional identities? 20
5. Attempt a critical note on Marga-Deshi and Great-Little dichotomies of folklore studies. 20
6. Define Mnemoculture. Discuss the prominent themes and motifs issued by the artists of Mithila paintings. 20

MFC-008 : FOLK REPRESENTATIONS

TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT

Course Code	:	MFC-008
Course Title	:	Folk Representations
Assignment Code	:	MFC-008/TMA-01/2024-25
Coverage	:	All Blocks

Maximum Marks 100

Answer any 5 questions. All questions carry equal marks. (20 X 5 = 100)

1. Critically interpret the text, “The Awakened Wind: the Oral Poetry of the Indian Tribes” by Sitakant Mahapatra 20
2. What is the cultural significance of the folk Ramayana Songs? Discuss many folk Ramayanas and their cultural significance. 20
3. Discuss ‘*Mahabharata: Ginge to Kurukshetra*’ by Alf Hilterbetel as a seminal literary text in folk literature. 20
4. How important is Paula Richman’s contribution to the documentation of oral traditions? 20
5. What makes *Jatra*, *Kathakali*, *Tamasha* and *Nautanki* the embodiments of fusion of folklore and theatre practices. 20
6. What are the shared and radical forces that alarmed the poets of the earlier generations that still get hold of the new poets in Native American poetry scenario? 20

MFC-009 : APPROACHES TO FOLKLORE

TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT

Course Code	:	MFC-009
Course Title	:	Approaches to Folklore
Assignment Code	:	MFC-009/TMA-01/2024-25
Coverage	:	All Blocks

Maximum Marks 100

Answer any 5 questions. All questions carry equal marks. (20 X 5 = 100)

1. Briefly talk about Levi-Strauss's interpretation of the Myth of Oedipus. 20
2. Discuss the idea of Roland Barthes from the text '*Death of the Author*' 20
3. The study of folk culture cannot be done properly without the help of Cultural Materialism as a literary theory– discuss. 20
4. Attempt a critical essay on folk dance forms of India and their applicability in mass media of the 21st century. 20
5. Discuss the significance of symbols and allegories in psychoanalytical study of folk forms with example. 20
6. What are your ideas about the tangible and intangible cultural heritages of any given society? 20