

**POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN AMERICAN
LITERATURE
(PGDAML)**

**ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET
(For July, 2022 and January, 2023 session)**

MEG 05: Literary Criticism & Theory

Choose any **three** of the following

MEG06: American Literature

MEG 11: American Novel

MEG 17: American Drama

MEG 18: American Poetry



**School of Humanities
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi – 110 068**

**ASSIGNMENTS
FOR
POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN AMERICAN LITERATURE
(PGDAML)**

Programme: PGDAML

Course Code: MEG –05, MEG 06, MEG 11, MEG 17 & MEG 18

Dear Student

You are required to do one assignment for each of the following courses of the PG Diploma in American Literature Programme. This is a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) and carries 100 marks each. Each assignment covers the entire course of MEG –05, MEG 06, MEG 11, MEG 17 & MEG 18. Please note: you need to do three TMAs from amongst MEG 06/11/12/17/18 as per your admission details.

Aims: These TMAs are concerned mainly with assessing your application and understanding of the course materials. You are not required to reproduce chunks of information from the course materials but to use the skills of critical appreciation that you may have acquired during the course of study. These assignment aim to teach as well as to assess your performance. Please ensure that you read all the texts prescribed in the courses. **Let me repeat: you must read all the texts/ critical essays prescribed.** Do make points as you go along. If there is anything you do not understand, please ask your Counsellor at the Study Centre for clarification. Once you are able to do the assignments satisfactorily, you will be ready to take the exam with confidence.

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

1. Write your enrolment number, name, full address and date on the top right corner of the first page of your response sheet(s).
2. 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:	
COURSE CODE:	STUDY CENTRE:
DATE:	

3. Use A 4 size paper for your response and tag all the pages carefully.
4. Write the relevant question number with each answer.
5. You should write in your own handwriting.

6. **Submission:** The completed assignment should be sent to the Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you by **31st March 2023** (if enrolled in the July 2022 Session) and **30th Sept, 2023** (if enrolled in the January 2023 session).

Now read the following guidelines carefully before answering 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 units 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 study materials.
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 summarise your response to the question. In the course of your answer, you may like to make references to other texts or critics 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;
 - (e) does not exceed the number of words indicated in your 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 emphasise.

You may be aware that **you need to 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!

MEG – 05: Literary Criticism & Theory

ASSIGNMENT 2022 - 2023
Based on Blocks (1 – 8)

Max. Marks: 100

Answer all questions.

1. Discuss Aristotle's view of literature as imitation. 20
2. What do Wordsworth and Coleridge have to say on poetic diction. 20
3. Write short notes on the following: 4 x 5 = 20
 - a) Catharsis
 - (b) Auchitya
 - (c) Superstructure
 - (d) 'Pleasure' and 'instruction' as ends of literature
4. What does I. A. Richards talk about in *Practical Criticism*? 20
5. Comment on Lacan's main contribution to critical theory. 20

MEG-06
AMERICAN LITERATURE
ASSIGNMENT 2022-23
(Based on Blocks 1-9)

Course Code: MEG-06/2022-23
Max. Marks: 100

Attempt all questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Analyse *Death of a Salesman* as a realistic tragedy. 20
2. Write a critical note on the dramatic form in the 20th Century. 20
3. Discuss the development of the revolutionary prose in America. 20
4. Write a note on imagism in Ezra Pound's poetry. Cite instances from his poems prescribed in your course. 20
5. Write a critical note on the ideology of Puritanism reflected in American literature. 20

MEG-11
AMERICAN NOVEL
ASSIGNMENT 2022-23
(Based on Blocks (1-9))

Course Code: MEG-11/ 2022-23
Max. Marks: 100

Answer all questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss the background and qualities of Romanticism as reflected in 19th Century American novel. 20
2. Discuss the common themes in the novels of Theodore Dreiser. Answer with suitable examples. 20
3. Attempt a critical analysis of *The Sound and the Fury*. 20
4. Discuss theme, plot, narrative techniques and style of the novel *Black Spring*. 20
5. What are the major themes and characters of the novel *The Catcher in the Rye*. 20

MEG - 17
AMERICAN DRAMA

Course Code: MEG-17
Assignment Code: MEG-17/TMA/2022-23
Max. Marks: 100

Attempt any **five** questions. All questions carry equal marks.

- | | | |
|----|--|----|
| 1. | Discuss Eugene O'Neill's contribution to modern American Drama. | 20 |
| 2. | What is Black Musical? | 20 |
| 3. | Narrate the classical background to the study of Musical Theatre? | 20 |
| 4. | Do you agree that "After Blenheim" is an anti-war text? What answer do you give in your defense? | 20 |
| 5. | Discuss <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i> as a Marxist play. | 20 |
| 6. | Is <i>The Family Reunion</i> a modernist Drama? Discuss | 20 |
| 7. | Discuss the technique of Expressionism in American Drama. | 20 |

MEG-18: AMERICAN POETRY

Course Code: MEG-18
Assignment Code: MEG-18/TMA/2022-23
Max. Marks: 100

Attempt any **five** questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Trace the history of colonialism in America. 20
2. Discuss the contributing texts of American Poetry to the canon. 20
3. How does Phillis Wheatley raise her black woman's voice in the poem "On Being Brought from American to America"? 20
4. Discuss some of the major figures of American Enlightenment. 20
5. Write a critical note on Thoreau's "Walden". 20
6. Critically examine Harlem Renaissance in the context of early twentieth century American Poetry. 20
7. Discuss the role of John Crowe Ransom in 20th Century American Poetry. 20