

MAEC

**MASTER OF ARTS
(ECONOMICS)**

ASSIGNMENTS 2024-25
Second semester Courses
(For July 2024 and January 2025 Sessions)



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
MAIDAN GARHI-110068

Master of Arts (Economics)

(TMA)

(2024-25)

Dear Student,

As explained in the programme guide for MAEC, assignments carry 30 per cent weightage in a course and it is mandatory that you must secure at least 40 per cent marks in assignments to complete a course successfully. Note that you must submit the assignments before appearing in Term End Examination of a course.

Before attempting the assignments, please read the instructions provided in the programme guide sent to you separately. In this booklet, we have included the assignments for all the courses pertaining to the **second semester**. In each course there is a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA). You must do the assignment for those courses for which you have registered. Do remember that you must prepare and submit the assignments separately for each course. Make sure that you submit the assignments well in time for those courses in which you plan to appear in the Term End Examination.

It is important that you write the answers to all the TMA questions in your own words. Your answers should be within the approximate range of the word-limit set for a particular section.

As mentioned in the Programme Guide, you need to submit all the assignments within the stipulated time for being eligible to appear in the term-end examination to the **coordinator of your study centre**. This assignment is valid for two admission cycles (**July 2024** and **January 2025**).

The assignments should be submitted to the Coordinator of your Study Centre:

1. **By 31st March 2025**, for the students willing to appear in June 2025 term-end examination.
2. **By 30th September 2025**, for the students willing to appear in December 2025 term end examination.

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 Student Evaluation Division at IGNOU, New Delhi.

We expect you to answer each question as per guidelines for each category as mentioned in the assignment. You will find it useful to keep the following points in mind:

- 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) **Organisation:** Be a little selective and analytic before drawing up a rough outline of your answer. Give adequate attention to your introduction and conclusion.

Make sure that your answer:

- a) is logical and coherent;
 - b) has clear connections between sentences and paragraphs, and
 - c) is written correctly giving adequate consideration to your expression, style and presentation.
- 3) **Presentation:** Once you are satisfied with your answer, you can write down the final version for submission, writing each answer neatly and underlining the points you wish to emphasize. Make sure that the answer is within the stipulated word limit.

MEC-104: ECONOMICS OF GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT
Tutor Marked Assignment

Course Code: MEC-104
Asst. Code: MEC-104 / AST-1/2024-25
Total Marks: 100

Note: Answer all the questions.

Section-A

Answer the following questions in about 700 words each. Each question carries 20 marks. 2X20=40

1. Explain how the Solow model differs from the Harrod-Domar model. Which of the two do you think is more relevant in describing the development process of developing nations?
2. Why does diminishing returns to capital not take place in the AK growth model? Analyse the Lucas model of endogenous growth, bringing out the role of human capital.

Section B

Answer the following questions in about 400 words each. Each question carries 12marks. 5X12=60

3. Distinguish between economic growth and development. Briefly mention the main benefits that economic growth confers upon society.
4. Describe the characteristic features of labour markets in developing countries.
5. What are the various approaches to the measurement of total factor productivity? Explain.
6. Discuss the relationship between income inequality and economic growth.
7. What impact do geographical factors have on economic development?

MEC-109: RESEARCH METHODS IN ECONOMICS
Tutor Marked Assignment

Course Code: MEC-109
Assignment Code: MEC-109/AST/2024-25
Maximum Marks: 100

Note: Answer all the questions. In case of numerical questions, word limit does not apply.

Section-A

Answer the following questions in about 700 words each. Each question carries 20 marks. 2X20=40

1. “The deductive strategy starts with application of reasoning from which generalizations are made”- In the light of this statement, formulate a research proposal indicating the various steps involved in the research process.
2. State the major features of critical framework as guiding principle for undertaking research in social sciences. Do you think that this framework is a departure from post positivism and interpretivism? Give reasons.

Section B

Answer the following questions in about 400 words each. Each question carries 12marks. 5X12=60

3. Explain the various functional forms of regression model.

From the imaginary data for 46 Districts in UP related to the year 2020, the following regression results are given:

$$\text{Log } C = 4.30 - 1.34 \log P + 0.17 \log Y$$

$$\text{Se} = (0.91) \quad (0.32) \quad (0.20) \quad \bar{R}^2 = 0.27$$

Where C= consumption of Cigarette packs per year

P= real price per pack

Y= real disposable income per capita.

- i. What is the elasticity of demand for cigarettes with respect to price?
 - ii. What is the income elasticity of demand for cigarettes? Is it statistically significant?
 - iii. How would you retrieve R^2 from the adjusted \bar{R}^2 given above.
4. What is representative sample? Explain with example how random sampling is different from non-random sampling? How does random sampling procedure is helpful in correcting the bias of an estimate?

5. Distinguish between quantitative and qualitative research. Discuss with example the special features and applications of correspondence analysis as a technique of data analysis for qualitative research.
6. What is composite Index? Discuss with example the process of constructing the composite index.
7. Write short note on following:
 - i. Factor loading
 - ii. Approaches of content analysis
 - iii. Research Design
 - iv. Action Research

MEC 205: INDIAN ECONOMIC POLICY
Tutor Marked Assignment
(TMA)

Course Code: MEC-205

Assignment Code: MEC-205/AST/2024-25

Maximum Marks: 100

Note: Answer all the questions.

Section-A

Answer the following questions in about 700 words each. Each question carries 20 marks.
2 × 20 = 40

1. “In a poor country like India, being unemployed itself does not ensure a decent standard of living”- Do you agree? Give reasons in support of your answer.
2. How are the inequalities of income measured in an economy? Examine the policy implications of income inequalities for wider spread poverty in India. Do you think that social protection can play important role in this regard?

Section B

Answer the following questions in about 400 words each. Each question carries 12marks.
5X12=60

3. Distinguish between economic growth and economic Development. Explain with illustration how economic development is a better measure of economic welfare.
4. Explain any four major issues of concern in Indian agriculture. To what extent the diversification towards high value agriculture will be helpful to address these issues of concern?
5. What do you mean by ‘fiscal imbalance?’ Which measures would you like to suggest to correct the fiscal imbalances?
6. Identify the barriers coming on the way of growth of the services sector in India? Which steps would you like to suggest to overcome these barriers?
7. Write short note on the followings:
 - i) Food security
 - ii) Pricing paradox
 - iii) Public private partnership
 - iv) Employment elasticity