



**MASTER'S DEGREE IN ENGLISH
(MEG)**

ASSIGNMENT
(July 2024 & January 2025)
MEG-18: *American Poetry*

School of Humanities
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068

**MASTERS DEGREE IN ENGLISH-18 (MEG-18)
AMERICAN POETRY**

Programme: MEG
Course Code: MEG-18

Dear Student,

You will have to attempt a single assignment for the Master’s Degree in English (MEG-18). The assignment is a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) and carries 100 marks. It will be based on blocks 1 to 7. The number of choices has been restricted in order to ensure that you read the study materials thoroughly and attempt some independent critical thinking.

Aims: The 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 use the skills of critical appreciation that you may have acquired during the course of study. The assignment aims to teach as well as to assess your performance. Please ensure that you read the three novels, one play as well as the short stories and poems that have been prescribed for this course.

Instructions: Before attempting the questions please read the following instructions carefully.

1. Read the detailed instructions about the assignment given in the Programme Guide for Elective Courses.
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 foolscap size paper for your response and tag all the pages carefully.
5. Write the relevant question number with each answer.
6. You should write in your own handwriting.
7. **Submission:** The completed assignment should be sent to the Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you **by 30th September (For January Session) and 31st March (For July Session), or as per the dates given in the University website.**

Please read the instructions given in your Programme Guide.

Now read the following guidelines carefully before answering the questions.

GUIDELINES FOR TMA

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

1. **Planning:** Read the assignment carefully. 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 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;
 - d. 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.

Note: You may be aware that you need to submit your assignment 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!

MASTER'S DEGREE IN ENGLISH (MEG-18)
AMERICAN POETRY
ASSIGNMENT

Course Code: MEG-18
Assignment Code: MEG-18/TMA/2024-25
Max. Marks: 100

Attempt any **five** questions. All questions carry equal marks. (20 x 5=100)

1. Trace the history of colonialism in America and its impact on American poetry. 20

2. Write short notes on: (10 x 2 = 20)
 - a) American Spirit and Puritan Spirit
 - b) American poetry today

3. Walt Whitman's poem, "Song of Myself" is a social document engaging American national landscape – discuss. 20

4. How does the choice of words in the poem "I Taste a Liquor Never Brewed" help to illustrate the idea of 'self' of the poet? 20

5. Critically appreciate the poems, "Home Burial" and "After apple Picking". 20

6. Discuss Joy Harjo and Leslie Marmon Silko as important Native American poets. 20