

MSO

# Master's Degree Programme in Sociology

First Year  
M.A. Sociology

Assignment  
July 2024 and January 2025 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 (TMA) 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**.

<b>Admission Cycle</b>	<b>Date of Submission</b>	<b>To be sent</b>
For students admitted in July 2024 Batch	31 <sup>st</sup> March, 2025	<b>To, The Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you</b>
For students admitted in January 2025 Batch	30 <sup>th</sup> September, 2025	

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 underline 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**  
**Faculty of Sociology**  
**School of Social Sciences**  
**IGNOU Delhi – 110 068**

**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/2024-25**

**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. | Discuss the relationship between theory and paradigm.   | 20 |
| 2. | Explain Parsons' action theory.   | 20 |
| 3. | Discuss the contribution of Levi-Strauss and Edmund Leach to the understanding of social structure. | 20 |
| 4. | What is power? Discuss the sources of power.  | 20 |

**Section-II**

- |    |   |    |
|----|---|----|
| 6. | What is modernity? Discuss Giddens' concept of modernity.     | 20 |
| 7. | What is citizenship? Discuss its various types.               | 20 |
| 8. | Examine the relationship between identity and identification. | 20 |
| 9. | Discuss Karl Marx's perspective on class.                     | 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/2024-25**

**Maximum Marks : 100**  
**Weightage : 30%**

**Answer questions from both the sections.**

	<b>Marks</b>
<b>Section –A</b>	
Answer any <i>two</i> of the following questions	
1. What is phenomenology? Explain with reference to the contribution of Martin Heidegger to understand phenomenology.	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 methodologies.	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. Impact of transnational migration on Indian Society.   | 50 |
| 2. Relevance of open and distance learning as a means of empowerment of the socially excluded and marginalized people in India. | 50 |
| 3. Relevance of caste in contemporary politics.   | 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/2024-25**

**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 Social Change? Discuss the various perspectives of social change.                        | 20 |
| 2. Discuss in detail cultural dimension of globalization.   | 20 |
| 3. What is sustainable development? Discuss its dimensions.   | 20 |
| 4. Discuss the impacts of large dams on the economic, social and ecological aspects of the society? | 20 |
| 5. What is modernisation? Discuss the various perspectives on modernisation.                        | 20 |

**Section-II**

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| 6. What is Social Development? Explain various models of development.                           | 20 |
| 7. Explain in detail the role of civil society for empowerment of the marginalized              | 20 |
| 8. What do you understand by 'human development'? How does it differ from economic development. | 20 |
| 9. Describe dependency theory and delineate its salient features.                               | 20 |
| 10. Discuss the role people science movement in developmental practices in India.               | 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/2024-25**

**Maximum Marks: 100**

**Weightage: 30%**

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

**Section-I**

1. Describe the socio-economic background of emergence of sociology. 20
2. Why did the major focus of sociologists and social-scientists became the village studies in India during the nineteen fifties? Discuss. 20
3. Describe the 'Brahminical' perspective on caste system in India. 20
4. Discuss the different views of Ambedkar and Lohia on Indian Society. 20
5. Describe the agrarian class structure in India with examples. 20

**Section-II**

6. What are the village commons? Discuss its significance. 20
7. Discuss the debate between Verrier Ellowin and G.S. Ghurey regarding the tribes in India. 20
8. Discuss the different roles that religion plays in Indian society with suitable examples. 20
9. What is urbanisation? Discuss its role in transforming the urban areas in India. 20
10. What are the difference between old social movements and new social movements? Discuss with examples. 20