

**PG Diploma in Women's and Gender Studies
(PGDWGS)**

ASSIGNMENT
(July 2020-21 Academic Year)
First Semester



School of Gender and Development Studies

Indira Gandhi National Open University

Maidan Garhi, New Delhi – 110068

PG DIPLOMA IN WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

ASSIGNMENT for MWG 001
(2020-21 Academic Year)

Assignment No.	Submission of Assignments by the Students
MWG-001/AST/TMA-2020-21	Please check assignment submission deadlines on the IGNOU website or by contacting your Regional Centre.

As explained in your Programme Guide, you need to complete one assignment for each course of 8 credits. **Please check the IGNOU website regarding any assignment submission updates.** With proper planning you will be able to do them within the stipulated period.

Kindly note that examination forms for Term End Examinations will only be accepted if you have submitted the relevant assignments by the given deadline. Submit assignments as per instructions provided by your Regional Centre/ on the university website. Include your name, enrollment number, Programme Code, Course Code and email ID on each assignment. Assignments need to be handwritten and each assignment should be submitted as a separate single document. (Do not combine two assignments/ Do not submit responses for individual questions as separate documents.)

PLEASE ALSO READ CAREFULLY INFORMATION REGARDING ASSIGNMENTS AND STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM PROVIDED IN THE PROGRAMME GUIDE.

Course Code : MWG 001
Course Title : Theories & Concepts in Women's & Gender Studies
Assignment No. : MWG 001/AST/TMA-2020-21

Note : The assignment requires you to attempt any ONE question. The recommended length for the response is 1600-2000 words.

Maximum Marks: 100

Statement Regarding Plagiarism: Please write all answers in your own words. Assignments with plagiarized material (copied directly from course books or any other external sources) will not be accepted. Please read statement on Plagiarism provided in the Programme Guide.

Attempt any ONE of the following essay questions (100 marks each)

1. Read the Unit on Ecofeminism (Block 2; Unit 3). Based on your understanding of the theoretical perspectives adopted by Sherry Ortner, Vandana Shiva and Bina Aggarwal, construct an imaginary conversation between the three. Your objective should be to highlight the important contributions of each, the points on which they might agree or disagree, and any cross-cultural differences that may emerge during their conversation.

OR

2. Increased levels of domestic violence against women and sexual minorities have been reported during the Covid 19 pandemic throughout the world. Based on your understanding of various types of feminisms (Liberal; Socialist; Marxist; Radical), how would each of these theoretical frameworks be helpful in addressing the current domestic violence crisis?

Choose one of the following formats to respond to this question:

a. Write an essay which presents an analysis of the domestic violence crisis during the Covid-19 pandemic from the perspective of each of the four feminist theoretical frameworks. Wherever possible, you may include possible solutions for reducing levels of domestic violence during the pandemic from the perspective of each approach.

OR

b. Present a conversation between four feminist scholars each of whom represents one of these theoretical positions. (You are free to use imaginary names). Each should offer her analysis of the domestic violence crisis during the pandemic. Wherever possible, you may include possible solutions for reducing levels of domestic violence during the pandemic from the perspective of each approach.

Your response (whether in format a. or format b.) should show how each of these theoretical feminist frameworks can offer a unique perspective on the current domestic violence crisis. If you feel that one of these approaches is better placed to address the problem, make sure to justify your position within your response.