

**PG Diploma/ MA Degree in Women's and Gender Studies
(PGDWGS/MAWGS)**

**ASSIGNMENT
(July 2017-18 Academic Year)
First Semester
(July 2017)**



**School of Gender and Development Studies
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi - 110068**

School of Gender and Development Studies
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi - 110068

PG DIPLOMA/ MA DEGREE IN WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

ASSIGNMENT for MWG 001
(2017-18 Academic Year)

Assignment No.	Submission of Assignments by the Students
MWG-001/AST/TMA-2017	25 th Sep, 2017

As explained in your Programme Guide, you need to complete one assignment for each course of 8 credits. Last date of submission for all assignments is mentioned above. **Please contact your Regional Center regarding any further updates regarding assignment submission.** With proper planning you will be able to do them within the stipulated period.

Kindly note that examination forms for December 2017 Term End Examinations will only be accepted if you have submitted the assignments by the given deadline at your Regional Center/Study Center.

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

PG DIPLOMA/ MA DEGREE IN WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

ASSIGNMENT for MWG 001

Course Code : MWG 001

Course Title : Theories & Concepts in Women's &
Gender Studies

Assignment No.: MWG 001/AST/TMA-2017

Note : The assignment requires you to attempt any **TWO** essay type questions. The recommended length for each answer is 1200-1500 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 two of the following Long Answer questions (50 marks each)

- 1) In your course material, you have read about various issues concerning feminism, the construction of sexuality, the idea of normative and non-normative identities, queer identities and movements. Many of these are issues about which people may have different views and opinions. Collect and record the diverse opinions of three to four people on some of these issues and present your own analysis and critique of the responses, based on your understanding of the course material. The responses can be collected either by conducting individual interviews or through a group discussion. The following steps should be used for preparing your response:
 - A) Prepare a few questions for an interview/ discussion, based on the above mentioned topics. Conduct individual interviews with three to four people and record their responses. These can be peers/ family members /friends/ co-workers/ any others. If you prefer, you can also collect a group of three/ four friends and have a group discussion instead of individual interviews. Present either the interviews or the discussion as your response to Part A.
 - B) With the help of the course material, as well as your own understanding of the issues, present an analysis of the responses/discussion. This can include your views on the level of common understanding that people have towards the topics discussed, what factors (such as age group/class/ religion, etc.) contribute to the differing opinions, what is the general level of tolerance towards non-normative identities today, and what needs to be done to increase a deeper understanding of these issues. (These are just suggestions; you can construct the analysis in Part B. as per your own preferences.)
- 2) Read either **one** of the following novellas, both of which are feminist utopias: *Herland* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman or Rokeya Hossain's *Sultana's Dream*.

The links for the novellas are given below:

Herland: <http://pinkmonkey.com/dl/library1/digi010.pdf> or
<https://faculty.unlv.edu/jwhite/AAE%20453%20V&U/Herland.pdf>

OR

Sultana's Dream: <http://digital.library.upenn.edu/women/sultana/dream/dream.html>

or

<http://www.worldlibrary.org/wplbn0000629703-sultana-s-dream-by-hossain-begum-rokeya-sakhawat.aspx?>

Based on your understanding of Radical Feminism, present an analysis of the novella you have read. Explain whether or not you agree with the author's views on the creation of a feminist utopia, and whether you think radical feminist theory can offer us any positive strategies towards attaining gender equality.

3) Watch the movie "Pink" (2016; Director: Aniruddha Roy Chowdhury).

Using your understanding of any one of the following feminist frameworks -

- a) Liberal Feminism or
- b) Marxist Feminism or
- c) Socialist Feminism -

present your critical analysis of the film from your chosen perspective.

Justify why the theoretical framework you have selected is the best suited for this analysis.