

MSO

# **Master's Degree Programme in Sociology**

**First Year  
M.A. Sociology**

**Assignment  
July 2020 and January 2021 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**.

Admission Cycle	Date of Submission	To be sent
For students admitted in July 2020 Batch	31 <sup>st</sup> March, 2021	<b>To, The Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you</b>
For students admitted in January 2021 Batch	30 <sup>th</sup> September, 2021	

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 underling 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/2020-21**

**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 concept of social reality in the context of symbolic universe. | 20 |
| 2. Discuss the relationship between theory and paradigm.                      | 20 |
| 3. Critically examine the theory of neo-functionalism.                        | 20 |
| 4. Discuss the concept of liberty in the writings of Isaiah Berlin.           | 20 |
| 5. Explain Malinowski's Scientific Theory of Culture.                         | 20 |

**Section-II**

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| 6. Discuss Foucault's concept of 'archaeology of knowledge'.                                       | 20 |
| 7. What is sovereignty? Discuss the difference between internal and external sovereignty.          | 20 |
| 8. Explain the functional perspective on social stratification.                                    | 20 |
| 9. Examine the perspectives of Kinsley Davis, Wilbert Moore and Melvin Tumin on social inequality. | 20 |
| 10. 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/2020-21**

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

**Answer questions from both the sections.**

**Marks**

**Section -A**

Answer any *two* of the following questions

- |    |   |    |
|----|---|----|
| 1. | ‘Science with its central principles of objectivity, universalisation and causal explanation had a significant impact on social science’. Critically discuss.   | 25 |
| 2. | What is participatory method of research? Explain   | 25 |
| 3. | What is ethnography? Explain its significance in sociological research.   | 25 |
| 4. | What is probability sampling? Explain its types.  | 25 |
| 5. | Distinguish between:<br>(i) pure research and applied research<br>(ii) participant observation and non-participant observation<br>(iii) questionnaire and schedule<br>(iv) qualitative and quantitative methods of research<br>(v) correlation and regression | 25 |

**Section-B**

Write a research report on any *one* of the following topics in about 3000 words.

- |    |  |    |
|----|--|----|
| 1. | Facebook friends.                        | 50 |
| 2. | Reverse migration of labour.             | 50 |
| 3. | Healthcare system in contemporary times. | 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/2020-21**

**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. | Examine the multiple connotations of the term development.                       | 20 |
| 2. | Critically evaluate the social and human dimension to the notion of development. | 20 |
| 3. | What is the relationship between Gender and Development? Discuss.                | 20 |
| 4. | Critically evaluate World System Analysis as way to understand development.      | 20 |

**Section-II**

- |    |  |    |
|----|--|----|
| 5. | Critically evaluate the contribution of Dependency Theorist to explain unequal economic systems. | 20 |
| 6. | Discuss the main features of participatory approach to resource management.                      | 20 |
| 7. | Explain the idea of ethno-development with suitable examples.                                    | 20 |
| 8. | Examine the major debates regarding population growth and control.                               | 20 |

**Indira Gandhi National Open University**  
**Core Course in M.A. Sociology**  
**MSO-004: Sociology in India**  
**Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA)**

**Programme Code: MSO**

**Course Code: MSO-004**

**Assignment Code: MSO-004/AST/TMA/2020-21**

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.**

**Section-I**

1. Describe the social background of the emergence of sociology in India. 20
2. What was the significance of village studies in India during the 1950s? Discuss. 20
3. Discuss the significance of Census approach towards caste identity and assertion in India. 20
4. Discuss the major features of descent and alliance approach to study kinship in India 20

**Section-II**

5. Explain the debate between Verrier Elwin and G.S. Ghurye regarding tribes in India. 20
6. Highlight some of the cohesive and conflict dimensions of religion in India. 20
7. How does urbanization impact society in India? Explain in the context of the migrants plight today. 20
8. Define and discuss the meaning of social movements with suitable examples. 20