Master of Arts (Development Studies) - One Year - (MADVSOY)

Assignments

(July 2026 & January 2027 Sessions)

School of Extension and Development Studies

Indira Gandhi National Open University

Maidan Garhi, New Delhi -110068

Dear Learner,

For each course, you must complete one assignment containing five questions. Each assignment is worth 100 marks and accounts for 30% of your final grade. Regardless of your registration year or academic session, you must submit the latest version of the assignments available on the website.

Instructions

1) Please write the following details on the first page of each assignment:
    - Name & Full Address:
    - Enrolment No.:
    - Admission Session:
    - Course Code:
    - Course Title:
    - Regional Centre:
    - Study Centre:
2) Use A-4 size plain / ruled paper for your responses. Write on both sides with a margin and tie/staple all the pages carefully - course-wise.
3) Write the question number with each answer.
4) You should write in your **own handwriting,** and **only handwritten assignments are evaluated**.
5) The last date for submitting the assignments for the July 2026 Session is **31st March 2027,** and for the January 2027 Session is **30th September 2027** (Check the University website for date extension, if any).
6) **Submit the assignments in the allotted study center only.**

Keep a scanned copy of the assignments with you until the marks are reflected in your grade card.

Guidelines

1) **Planning:** Read the assignments carefully. Go through the self-learning material on which they are based. Make points regarding each question and then rearrange these in a logical order.
2) **Organization:** Be a little more selective and analytical. Give attention to your introduction and conclusion. The introduction must offer a brief interpretation of the question and how you propose to develop it. The conclusion must summarize your response to the question.
3) **Make sure that your answer:**
    a) is around 800 words for each question.
    b) is logical, coherent and has clear connections between sentences and paragraphs.
    c) is written correctly, giving adequate consideration to your expression, style and presentation.
4) **Presentations:** Once you are satisfied with your answers, you can write the final version for submission. Write each answer neatly and underline the points you wish to emphasize.

ASSIGNMENT – 1
Introduction to Development and Development Theories

Course Code: MDV - 201
Maximum Marks: 100

Answer all the questions. Each question carries 20 marks

1. Explain the concept of development and distinguish between economic, human, and political development.
2. Discuss Adam Smith's Classical Theory of Development, highlighting its main assumptions, features, contributions, and criticisms.
3. Explain the theories of Balanced and Unbalanced Growth. How do these approaches differ in their strategy for economic development?
4. What is Leibenstein's Critical Minimum Effort Thesis? Explain its significance for the economic advancement of developing countries.
5. Explain the Gandhian Theory of Development. Discuss its core principles and examine its relevance in the contemporary world.

Cover Page for Assignment

SCHOOL OF EXTENSION AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110068

Assignment No.:

Name of learner :

Enrolment No. :

Regional Centre and Code :

Name of the Programme :

Programme Code :

Course Code :

Course Title :

Email :

Mobile no./Phone no. :

Date of Submission :

Address of Student :

Signature of Student :