

**MASTERS IN PERFORMING ARTS -THEATRE ARTS
(MPATHA)**

**ASSIGNMENT
(For July, 2026)**

**CLASSICAL INDIAN THEATRE AND FOLK THEATRE
MTH- 031**



**SCHOOL OF PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi – 110 068**

Dear Learner,

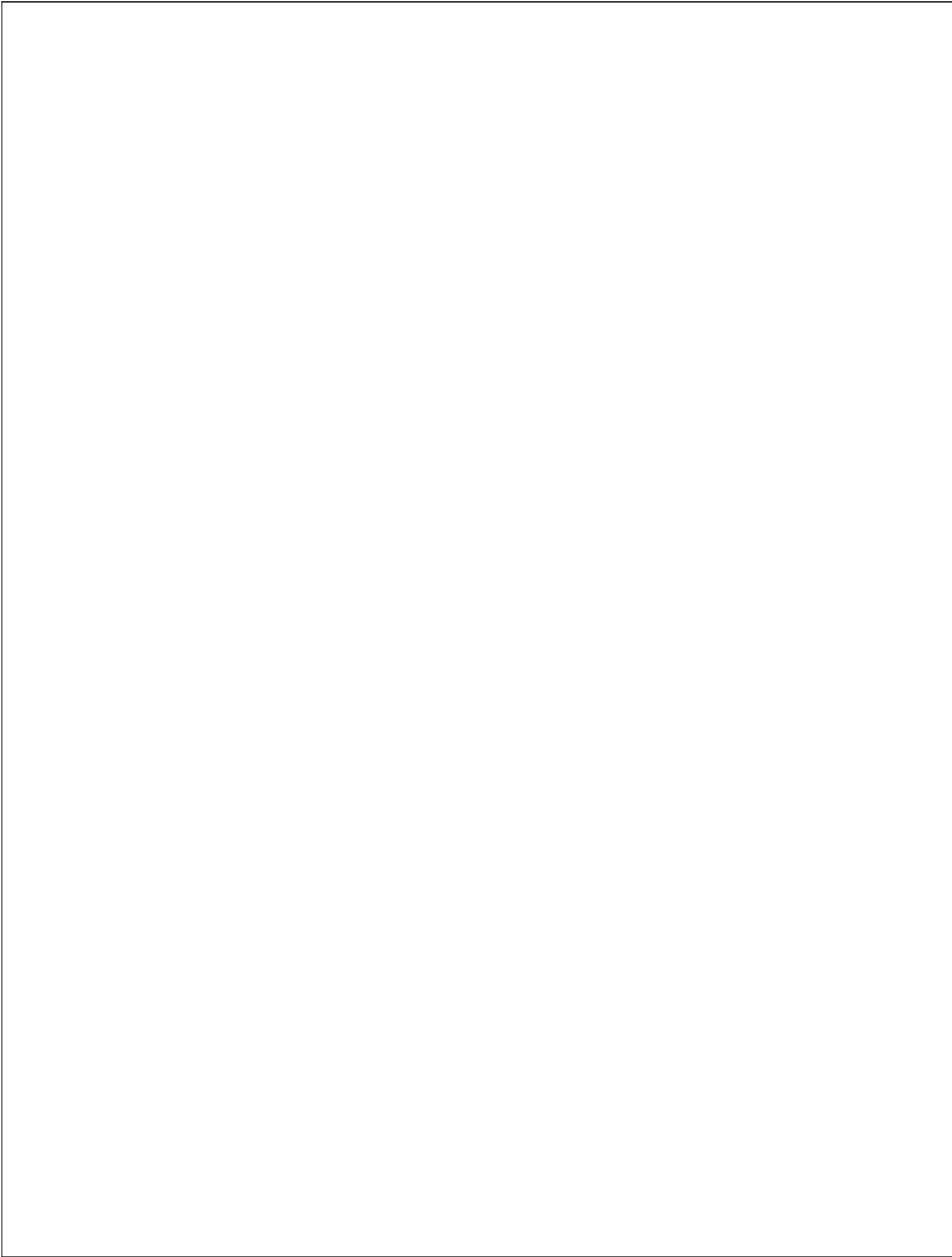
You will have to do one assignment with five questions for each course. Each assignment carries 100 marks with 30% weightage in the final assessment. Irrespective of the year and session of the registration, you need to submit the latest assignments uploaded on the website.

Instructions

1. Please write the following details on the first page of each assignment:
 - a. Name & Enrolment No.:
 - b. Full Address:
 - c. Admission Session:
 - d. Course Code:
 - e. Course Title:
 - f. Regional Centre:
 - g. Study Centre:
2. Copy of IGNOU Identity Card.
3. Printout of valid/applicable assignment question paper.
4. 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.
5. Write the question number with each answer.
6. You should write in your own handwriting, and only handwritten assignments are evaluated.
7. 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 University website for date extension, if any).
8. Submit the assignments in the allotted study center only. Keep a scanned copy of 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/web references 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 500-1000 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.
5. Please contact the respective course coordinator for any academic help/clarification.





Indira Gandhi National Open University

Enrolment Number : _____

Name : _____

Address : _____

Programme Code : _____

Course Code : _____

Study Centre Code : _____

Regional Centre : _____

Assignment code : _____

Mobile Number : _____

Email ID : _____

Date of Submission : _____

Signature : _____

Classical Indian Theatre and Folk Theatre

TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT

Programme Code: MPATHA Course Code: MTH -031

Course Title: Classical Indian Theatre and Folk Theatre

Assignment code: AST/TMA/July 2026

Note:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Answer all questions. | Maximum Marks 100 |
| 2. All questions carry equal marks. | 5x20=100 |
| 3. Answer should not exceed 1000 words. | |

1. Explain the Theory of Rasa as presented in Bharata's *Natyashastra*. Discuss the relationship between Rasa and Bhava and evaluate the importance of aesthetic experience in dramatic performance.
2. Analyze Bharata's classification of dramatic forms (*Rupakas*). Discuss their characteristics and relevance to the development of classical Sanskrit drama.
3. Describe the role of acting (*Abhinaya*) in Bharata's *Natyashastra*. Explain the four types of Abhinaya—Angika, Vachika, Aharya, and Sattvika.
4. Discuss the evolution and significance of folk theatre in India. Examine how traditional forms such as Jatra, Kathakali, Tamasha, Nautanki, and Pala preserve cultural heritage while influencing modern Indian theatre
5. Critically analyze the representation of folk culture in cinema with reference to *Pather Panchali* and *Robin Hood*. How do these films negotiate the relationship between 'folk' and 'popular' culture?