

MBC-008

ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET

Masters Degree in BIOCHEMISTRY (MSCBCH)

GENETICS AND EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

(Valid from 1st July, 2025 to 31stDecember, 2026)



**School of Sciences
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068**

Dear Student,

Please read the section on assignments in the Programme Guide of M.Sc. Biochemistry (MSCBCH) that we sent you after your enrolment. A weightage of 30 percent, as you are aware, has been earmarked for continuous evaluation, **which would consist of one tutor-marked assignment** for this course. The assignment is in this booklet, and it consists of two parts, Part A and B. It covers all blocks of the course. The total marks of all the parts are 100, of which 35% are needed to pass it.

SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS FOR TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS (TMA)

- 1) Write your Enrolment Number, Name, Full Address, Signature and Date on the top right hand corner of the first page of your response sheet.
- 2) Write the Programme Title, Course Code, Course Title, Assignment Code and Name of your Study Centre on the left hand corner of the first page of your response sheet.

Course Code and Assignment Code may be reproduced from the assignment.

The top of the first page of your response sheet should look like this:

ENROLMENT NO.:

PROGRAMME TITLE	:	NAME:
COURSE CODE	:	ADDRESS:
COURSE TITLE	:
ASSIGNMENT CODE	:	SIGNATURE:
STUDY CENTRE	:	DATE:

- 3) Read the assignments carefully and follow the specific instructions, if any, given on the assignment itself about the subject matter or its presentation.

- 4) Go through the Units on which the assignments are based (**Part A includes Block-1 and 2 and Part B Block 3 and 4**). Make some points regarding the question and then rearrange those points in a logical order and draw up a rough outline of your answer. While answering an essay type question, give adequate attention to introduction and conclusion. The introduction must provide a brief interpretation of the question and how you propose to develop it. The conclusion must summarise your response to the question. Make sure that the answer is logical and coherent, and has clear connections between sentences and paragraphs. The answer should be relevant to the question given in the assignment. Make sure that you have attempted all the main points of the question. Once you are satisfied with your answer, write down the final version neatly and underline the points you wish to emphasise. While solving numerical problems, use proper format and give working notes wherever necessary.

PLEASE FOLLOW THE ABOVE FORMAT STRICTLY TO FACILITATE EVALUATION AND TO AVOID DELAY.

1. Use only foolscap size paper for your response and tie all the pages carefully. Avoid using very thin paper. Allow a 4 cm margin on the left and at least 4 lines in between each answer. This would facilitate the evaluator to write useful comments in the margin at appropriate places.
2. Write the responses in your own handwriting. Do not print or type the answers. Do not copy your answers from the Units/Blocks sent to you by the University. It is advised to write your answers in your own words as it will help in grasping the study material.
3. Do not copy from the response sheets of other students. If copying is noticed, the assignment will be rejected.
4. Write each assignment separately. All the assignments should not be written in continuity.
5. Write the question number with each answer.
6. The completed assignment should be submitted to the Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you. TMAs submitted at any other place will not be evaluated.
7. After submitting the TMA, get the acknowledgement from the coordinator on the prescribed assignment remittance-cum-acknowledgement card.
8. In case you have requested for a change of Study Centre, you should submit your TMA only to the original Study Centre until the change of Study Centre is notified by the University.
9. If you find that there is any factual error in evaluation of your assignments e.g. any portion of your assignment response has not been evaluated or the total of score recorded on your assignment response is incorrect, you should approach the Coordinator of your study centre for correction and transmission of correct score to headquarters.

Assignment

GENETICS AND EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

Course Code: **MBC-008**

Maximum marks: **100**

Assignment code: **MBC-008/TMA/2025-26**

Note: Attempt all questions. The marks for each question are indicated against it.

For any question worth 2 marks, the word limit is 50 words, for 5 marks question it is 100 words; and for 10 marks it is 250-300 words.

PART-(A) Maximum marks: 50

- | | | |
|-------|---|----|
| 1 | What are model organisms, and why are they important in biological research?
Give characteristics of any two-model organism. | 10 |
| 2 (a) | Describe how the behaviour of chromosomes at meiosis explains the law of independent assortment. | 5 |
| (b) | Describe epistatic and non-epistatic gene interactions. | 5 |
| 3 | Explain non-mendelian inheritance with suitable examples. | 10 |
| 4 (a) | Explain how centromere is mapped with respect to a close by gene in <i>Neurospora crassa</i> . | 5 |
| (b) | Explain <i>cis-trans</i> test of allelism (complementation test). | 5 |
| 5 | Explain with suitable examples chromosomal and environmental sex determination mechanisms. | 10 |

PART-(B) Maximum marks: 50

- | | | |
|------|---|---|
| 6(a) | Explain the significance of studying development biology. | 5 |
| (b) | Differentiate between spermatogenesis and oogenesis. | 5 |
| 7(a) | Write brief note on the characteristics and importance of Hox genes. | 5 |
| (b) | What are maternal determinants? Discuss their role in development of <i>Drosophila</i> . | 5 |
| 8(a) | Discuss the pedigree of an autosomal dominant trait. Name two human diseases with autosomal dominant inheritance. | 5 |
| (b) | Explain the Lederberg and Tatum experiment and its inference. | 5 |

- 9(a) Describe the human diseases arising due to variation in chromosome number. 5
- (b) Write the Hardy-Weinberg Law and its application. 5
- 10 Write short notes on the following: 5x2=10
- i. Piebaldism
 - ii. Congenital heart diseases
