

BSOC 114

BACHELOR OF ARTS

ASSIGNMENTS 2025-26

For July 2025 and January 2026 Admission Cycles

COURSE CODE: BSOC-114

SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS II



**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-68**

Dear Student,

As explained in the Programme Guide, evaluation of a course at IGNOU comprise i) continuous evaluation through assignments, and ii) term-end examination. In the final result, assignments of a course carry 30% weightage while 70% weightage is given to term-end examination. You will have to do three assignments for a six credit course and two assignments for a four credit course. This assignment booklet has assignments for the course **BSOE-114: Sociological Research Methods II**.

Assignment A has Descriptive Category Questions (DCQs). These are meant for writing essay type answers, with an introduction and a conclusion. These are intended to test your ability to describe your understanding/knowledge about a topic in a systematic, to-the-point and coherent manner.

Assignment B has Middle Category Questions (MCQs). These questions require you to first analyse the topic in terms of arguments and explanations and then write the answers in a concise manner. They are meant to test your ability to distinguish, compare and contrast, and clear understanding of the concepts and processes.

Assignment C has Short Category Questions (SCQs). These questions are meant to improve your skill of recall in brief the relevant/ precise information about various concepts and processes.

Before you attempt the assignments, please read carefully the instructions provided in the Programme Guide. It is important that you write the answers to all the questions in your own words. Your answers should be within the approximate range of the word-limit set for a particular section. Remember that writing answers to assignment questions will improve your writing skill and prepare you for the Term-End Examination.

As mentioned in the Programme Guide, you need to submit all the assignments within the stipulated time for being eligible to appear in the term-end examination.

Completed assignments should be submitted to the **Coordinator of your Study Centre** by:

For students of July 2025 cycle: 30.04.2026

For students of January 2026 cycle: 31.10.2026

You must obtain a receipt from the Study Centre for the assignments submitted and retain it. If possible, keep a photocopy/ scanned copy of the assignments submitted by you. The Study Centre will have to return the assignments to you after they are evaluated. Please insist on this.

We expect you to answer each question as per guidelines for each category questions as mentioned in the assignment. You will find it useful to keep the following points in mind:

- 1) **Planning:** Read the assignments carefully. Go through the Units on which they are based. Make important points regarding each question and then rearrange them in a logical order.
- 2) **Organisation:** Be a little selective and analytic before drawing up a rough outline of your answer. Give adequate attention to your introduction and conclusion.

Make sure that your answer
 - a) is logical and coherent;
 - b) has clear connections between sentences and paragraphs, and
 - c) is written correctly giving adequate consideration to your expression, style and presentation.

- 3) **Presentation:** Once you are satisfied with your answer, you can write down the final version for submission, writing each answer neatly and underlining the points you wish to emphasize. Make sure that the answer is within the stipulated word limit.

Best wishes

Faculty of Sociology

SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS 11

Course Code: BSOC-114
Assignment Code: ASST/BSOC 114/ 2025-26
Total Marks: 100

Assignment I

Answer the following Descriptive Category Questions in about 500 words each. Each question carries 20 marks. $2 \times 20 = 40$

1. Explain the concept and importance of 'research design' in social science research.
2. Analyse the significance of ethics in field research. What ethical dilemmas are commonly faced by sociologists.

Assignment II

Answer the following Middle Category Questions in about 250 words each. Each question carries 10 marks. $3 \times 10 = 30$

3. Discuss the use of focus group discussions as a method of data collection in sociological research. What are its strengths and limitations?
4. Explain quota sampling as a sampling method. Compare it briefly with stratified random sampling in terms of procedure and reliability.
5. What is ethnography? Describe its key characteristics and discuss its relevance in contemporary sociological inquiry.

Assignment III

Answer the following Short Category Questions in about 100 words each. Each question carries 6 marks. $5 \times 6 = 30$

6. Define inferential statistics and its role in sociological analysis.
7. Briefly discuss Malinowski's contribution to fieldwork.
8. What do you understand by the life-history method in qualitative research?
9. Explain briefly what is meant by pilot testing of research instruments.
10. What is an interview guide?