

MASO

Master's Degree Programme in Sociology

First Year
M.A. Sociology

Assignment
January 2026 and July 2026 sessions

MSOE-105: Introduction to Urban Sociology



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. 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 January 2026 Batch	30 th September, 2026	To, The Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you
For students admitted in July 2026 Batch	31 st March, 2027	

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 underlining 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
MSOE-105: Introduction to Urban Sociology
Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA)

Programme Code: MASO
Course Code: MSOE-105
Assignment Code: MSO-101/AST/TMA/2026

Maximum Marks: 100
Weightage: 30%

Answer any *five* questions in about 500 words each.

	Marks
1. What is urban sociology? Discuss its subject matter.	20
2. Discuss the concept of 'urban'. Define urban in the Indian context with special reference to the Indian Census.	20
3. Examine the various bases of defining a city. What can be a more suitable way to define a city?	20
4. Discuss the rural–urban continuum approach to the study of urban phenomena. What are its major critiques?	20
5. Explain the ecological perspective in urban sociology. What are the major critiques of this perspective?	20
6. Discuss exploitative model of understanding the structure of cities. How it different from other models explaining structure of cities?	20
7. Explain the concept and technique of social area analysis for understanding the social characteristics of urban areas. What are its major limitations?	20
8. Describe different parts of the colonial city of Kolkata and their social significance during the colonial period.	20
9. Analyse the recent trends and patterns of urbanisation in India.	20
10. Discuss the development of urban sociology in India.	20