MPS-105

MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN POLITICAL SCIENCE(MPS)

ASSIGNMENT

(First Year)

July 2026 and January 2027 Sessions

School of Social Sciences
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-11006

M.A. (Political Science)
CORE COURSES

Dear learner,

As explained in the Programme Guide, you will have to do a Tutor Marked Assignment for each course in Political Science. This booklet contains the assignments of the first year courses of the Masters Programme in Political Science.

You need to submit all the assignments within the stipulated time for being eligible to appear in the term-end examination. Before you attempt the assignments, please read the instructions carefully provided in the Programme Guide.

It is important that you write the answers in your own words. Your answers should be within the approximate range of the word-limit set for a particular section. Remember, writing answers to assignment questions will improve your writing skills and prepare you for the term-end examination.

All assignments, including these, have to be **submitted to the Coordinator of your Study Centre**. Remember to 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 will note down the marked awarded for each assignment and forward them to the Student Evaluation Division (SED) at IGNOU, New Delhi.

Submission:

The completed assignments should be submitted as per the following schedule.

Session	Last Date of Submission	To be Submitted to
For July 2026 Session	March 31, 2027	The Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you
For January 2027 Session	September 30, 2027	

Wishing you all the best,

Faculty of Political Science

WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT (FROM PLATO TO MARX) (MPS-105)

TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT

Course Code: MPS-105

Assignment Code: ASST/TMA/2026-27

Marks: 100

Note: Answer five questions, selecting at least two questions from each section. Each question must be answered in about 500 words. Each question carries 20 marks.

SECTION – I

1. What is political thought? Distinguish political thought from political theory and political philosophy?

2. Critically examine Plato's Theory of Education.

3. What is Aristotle's contribution to the Western Political Theory?

4. Explain St. Augustine's concept of the two cities. In what way was it supportive of Christianity?

5. Write short notes on the following in about 250 words each:

   (a) Universal Egoism

   (b) Sovereign in Hobbes' Social Contract

SECTION – II

6. Critically examine the limitations on the ownership of property as defined by Locke.

7. Evaluate Rousseau as a critic of civil society.

8. Distinguish Jeremy Bentham's Utilitarianism from J S Mill's utilitarianism.

9. Explain Hegel's theory of state.

10. Write short notes on the following in about 250 words each:

    (a) Surplus Value

    (b) Alienation