

MPS-109

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME
IN POLITICAL SCIENCE(MAPS)**

**ASSIGNMENT
(First Year)**

July 2026 and January 2027 Sessions



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

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 marks 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

COMPARATIVE POLITICS: ISSUES AND DEBATES (MPS-109)

TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT

Course Code: MPS-109

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 carries 20 marks.

SECTION – I

1. Critically examine the major forms and approaches to nationalism. How useful is the civic–ethnic distinction for understanding nationalism, and what are its limitations?
2. Analyse anti-colonial movements as forms of nationalist mobilisation. How did struggles against colonial rule reshape claims to political community and self-determination?
3. Examine the relationship among nationality, self-determination and autonomy movements. How do such movements create tensions among sovereignty, legitimacy, diversity and territorial control?
4. Critically examine state-building and constitutionalism. Discuss contemporary challenges relating to legitimacy and state sovereignty.
5. Write short notes on the following in about 250 words each:
 - (a) Politics of identities: recognition and redistribution
 - (b) Ethnic movements

SECTION – II

6. Critically examine the major theoretical explanations for the emergence of social movements.
7. Discuss the significance of civil liberties, rights and freedoms in democratic politics. How do they shape the relationship between citizens, collective action and state power?
8. Critically assess competing strategies of development. How far can social safety nets and social protection address poverty and hunger as well as inequalities.
9. Analyse democratic transition and consolidation. What role do institutionalisation, party systems, citizen participation and democratic norms play in sustaining democracy and preventing democratic backsliding?
10. Write short notes on the following in about 250 words each:
 - (a) Forms of democracy
 - (b) Resistance, violence and democratic protest