MPSE-012

MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (MPS) / MASTER OF ARTS (POLITICAL SCIENCE) (ONE YEAR) (MAPSOY)

ASSIGNMENT 2026-27

(Second Year/Second Semester)

MPSE-012: STATE AND SOCIETY IN AUSTRALIA

Faculty of Political Science

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY

MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-68

M.A. (Political Science)

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 Second-year optional course of the Master's Programme in Political Science (MPS)/course of Semester-Second of MAPSOY: Master of Arts (Political Science) (One Year).

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 **For January 2027 Session**	**March 31, 2027** **September 30, 2027**	**The Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you**

Wishing you all the best,

Faculty of Political Science

MPSE-012: STATE AND SOCIETY IN AUSTRALIA

(TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT)

Course Code: MPSE-012

Assignment Code: MPSE-012/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. How and why has Australian national identity moved from an Anglo-Celtic self-image towards a multicultural one?

2. What led to the decline of the White Australia Policy, and what kind of immigration regime replaced it?

3. How did Will Kymlicka's idea of liberal multiculturalism attempt to move beyond the liberal communitarian debate? Assess its relevance to citizenship in Australia.

4. Why has Australian federalism tended towards centralisation, and how far have intergovernmental bodies such as the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) restored a balance between the Commonwealth and the States?

5. Trace Australia's shift from protectionism to market-oriented reform after the 1980s, and assess its consequences for income distribution and welfare.

SECTION – II

6. Compare settler nationalism with Aboriginal nationalism in Australia. In what ways did Hansonism challenge a multicultural national identity?

7. Assess the role of the Cairns Group and APEC in Australia's pursuit of trade liberalisation.

8. How far does the experience of the Indian diaspora reflect both the strengths and the limits of Australian multiculturalism?

9. Critically assess the gains made by women in Australian employment and politics.

10. Does immigration strengthen or strain social cohesion in Australia? Discuss with reference to ethnicity and globalisation.