MPSE-013

MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME
IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (MPS)

ASSIGNMENT 2026-27

(Second Year)

MPSE-013: AUSTRALIA'S FOREIGN POLICY

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 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 **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-013: AUSTRALIA'S FOREIGN POLICY

(TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT)

Course Code: MPSE-013

Assignment Code: MPSE-013/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. Compare the principal power, dependency and middle power frameworks. Which best explains Australian foreign policy today?

2. Assess the relative influence of the executive, DFAT, Parliament and societal actors on foreign policy making in Australia.

3. How has geo-economics come to rival security as a determinant of Australia's foreign policy?

4. Examine the shift in India-Australia relations from Cold War distance, through the setback of 1998, to closer convergence.

5. Assess Australia's role in the Pacific Islands Forum and its engagement with ASEAN.

SECTION – II

6. How has globalisation reshaped Australia's economic profile and its patterns of trade and investment?

7. How has Australia balanced its economic engagement with China against political differences over Taiwan and human rights?

8. How have economic rationalism and the war on terrorism shaped Australia's immigration and refugee policy?

9. How does Australia reconcile its international environmental commitments, including those under Kyoto, with its domestic economic interests?

10. Why has ANZUS remained central to Australia's security since the Cold War, and what tensions has the alliance created?