

BANC-131

**BACHELOR OF ARTS (BAG)/BACHELOR OF ARTS
(MULTIDISCIPLINARY) (BAM)**

ASSIGNMENT

July 2026-January 2027

BANC 131- ANTHROPOLOGY AND RESEARCH METHODS



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

**INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY MAIDAN GARHI,
NEW DELHI-110068**

Dear Learner,

As we have informed you in the Programme Guide, evaluation at IGNOU consists of two parts: i) continuous evaluation through assignments, and ii) term-end examination. In the final result, assignments of a course carry 30% weightage while 70% weightage is given for term-end examination.

You will have to do three Tutor Marked Assignments (TMA) for a six-credit course and two TMAs for a four-credit course. This Assignment booklet has TMA for the discipline specific elective course BANC 131- Anthropology and Research Methods which is a six-credit course. The booklet therefore has three TMAs per course whose total marks adds up to 100 and carry a weightage of 30 %.

Assignment I has Descriptive Category Questions (DCQs). These are meant for writing essay type answers, with an introduction and a conclusion. These are intended to test your ability to describe your understanding/knowledge about the topic in a systematic, to-the-point and coherent manner.

Assignment II has Middle Category Questions (MCQs). These questions require you to first analyse the topic in terms of arguments and explanations and then write the answers in a concise manner. They are meant to test your ability to clearly understand concepts and processes.

Assignment III has Short Category Questions (SCQs). These questions are meant to improve your skill of recalling the relevant/precise information about persons, writing, events, and or clear understanding of concepts and processes.

Before you attempt the assignments, please read the instructions carefully provided in the Programme Guide. It is important that you write the answers to all the TMA questions 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.

As mentioned in the Programme Guide, you need to submit all the assignments within the stipulated time for being eligible to appear in the term-end examination.

Submission of the completed assignments:

	Last date of submission	Place of submission
July 2026 cycle	30 th April 2027	Coordinator of the Learner
January 2027 cycle	30 th September 2027	Support Center

Please visit the Learner Support Centre to submit your assignment and obtain the receipt for the assignments submitted and retain it. If possible, keep a xerox copy of the assignments with you.

The Learner Support Centre shall return the assignments to you after they are evaluated. Please insist on this. The Learner Support Centre shall send the marks to the Student Evaluation Division at IGNOU, New Delhi.

We expect you to answer each question as per guidelines for each category as mentioned in the assignment. You will find it useful to keep the following points in mind:

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) Organisation: Be a little selective and analytic before drawing up a rough outline of your answer.

Give adequate attention to your introduction and conclusion.

Make sure that your answer:

- a) is logical and coherent;**
- b) has clear connections between sentences and paragraphs, and**
- c) is written correctly giving adequate consideration to your expression, style and presentation.**

3) Presentation: Once you are satisfied with your answer, you can write down the final version for submission, writing each answer neatly and underlining the points you wish to emphasize. Make sure that the answer is within the stipulated word limit.

**Discipline of Anthropology
SOSS, IGNOU, New Delhi**

**BANC-131: ANTHROPOLOGY AND RESEARCH METHODS
(TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT)**

Course Code: BANC 131
Assignment Code: BANC 132/ASST/TMA/2026-2027
Total Marks: 100

There are three Assignments. All questions are compulsory.

Assignment – I

Answer the following in about 500 words each.

- | | |
|--|----|
| 1. Define anthropology. Briefly discuss its scope. | 20 |
| 2. Discuss the history of fieldwork and criticism of Arm chair anthropology. | 20 |

Assignment – II

Answer the following questions in about 250 words each.

- | | |
|--|----|
| 3. Discuss the current fields of social anthropology. | 10 |
| 4. Briefly discuss branches of physical/biological anthropology. | 10 |
| 5. Describe the development of prehistoric researches. | 10 |

Assignment – III

Answer the following questions in about 100 words each.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 6. Types of Research design | 5 |
| 7. Observation | 5 |
| 8. Applying anthropology to solve life problems | 5 |
| 9. Serology | 5 |
| 10. Excavation | 5 |
| 11. Emic and Etic approach. | 5 |