

**FOUR YEAR UNDERGRADUATE
PROGRAMME
(FYUP)**

(MINOR COURSE)

ASSIGNMENT

July 2026- January 2027 session

COURSE CODE: BANM-162

ANTHROPOLOGY OF SOCIETY AND CULTURE



**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 minor course **BANM- 162 Anthropology of Society and Culture** which is a four-credit course. The booklet therefore has two TMAs per course whose total marks add 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) and Short Category Questions SCQs. These (MCQs) 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 distinguish, compare and contrast, or develop a clear understanding of the concepts and processes. The SCQs questions are meant to improve your skill of recall in brief the relevant/precise information about persons, writing, events, or develop a 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 handwritten assignments within the stipulated time for being eligible to appear in the term-end examination.

Submission of the completed assignments:

Admission batch	Last date of submission	Place of submission
For the students enrolled in July 2026	30th April 2027	Coordinator of the Learner Support Centre
For the students enrolled in January 2027	30th September 2027	

You may visit the Learner Support Centre to submit your assignment and obtain the receipt from the Learner Support Centre 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 would 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 emphasise. Make sure that the answer is within the stipulated word limit.

Wish you all the best!

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

**BANM-162: ANTHROPOLOGY OF SOCIETY AND CULTURE
TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT
(TMA)**

Course Code: BANM 162

Assignment Code: BANM- 162/ASST/TMA/ July 2026-January 2027

Total Marks: 100

There are two Sections in the Assignment. You have to answer all questions in all the Sections.

Assignment – I

Answer the following in about 500 words each.

2X20= 40

- a. Define social and cultural anthropology. Reflect on its scope of study.
- b. Who were the arm chair anthropologists? How does the present-day data collection process differ from the one they used? Explain the relevance of fieldwork in anthropology.

Assignment – II

Answer the following in about 250 words each.

3X10=30

- a. Define culture. Discuss its meanings and characteristics.
- b. Explain the different types of marriages found in societies.
- c. Analyse the various means of production in simple societies.

Answer the following questions in about 150 words each.

6X5=30

- a. The British and the American Schools of Anthropology
 - b. Ceremonial exchange
 - c. Totemism
 - d. Social Stratification
 - e. Cultural relativism and ethnocentrism.
 - f. Relationship of anthropology with sociology
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