

MAGD

**MASTER OF ARTS
(GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES)**

ASSIGNMENTS 2026-27

First Year Courses

(For the students admitted in July 2026 and January 2027 or prior)

**SCHOOL OF GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT
STUDIES**

**INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
MAIDANGARHI**

NEW DELHI-110068

Master of Arts
(Gender and Development Studies)
(TMA)
(2026-27)

Dear Learners,

As explained in the programme guide for MAGD, assignments carry 30 per cent weightage in a course, and you must secure at least 40 per cent marks in assignments to complete a course successfully. Note that you have to submit the assignments before appearing in the Course's Term End Examination.

Before attempting the assignments, please read the instructions provided in the programme guide. In each Course, there is a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA). You have to do the assignment for the courses you registered for. Remember that you must prepare and submit the assignments separately for each Course. Make sure you submit the assignments well in time for the courses you plan to appear in the Term End Examination.

You must 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.

As mentioned in the instructions, you must submit all the assignments within the stipulated time to be eligible to appear in the term-end examination to the respective regional centre or **Coordinator of your study centre**. This assignment is valid for two admission cycles (**July 2026** and **January 2027**).

The assignments should be submitted to the respective regional centre or Coordinator of your Study Centre:

1. **By 31st October 2026**, for the students willing to appear in the December 2026 Term End examinations.
2. **By 30th April 2027**, for the students willing to appear in the June 2027 Term End Examination.

You must obtain an email response from the respective regional centre or a receipt from the respective Study Centre for the assignments submitted and retain it. Keep a photocopy of the assignments with you.

After the assignments are evaluated, the respective regional centre or Study Centre may return them to you. The Study Centre must send the marks to the Student Evaluation Division at IGNOU, New Delhi, for upload.

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

- 1) **Planning:** Read the assignments carefully and review the Units on which they are based. Make some points regarding each question and then rearrange them logically.
- 2) **Organization:** Be selective and analytical 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) It is written correctly, giving adequate consideration to your expression, style and presentation.
- 3) **Presentation:** Once 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.

MGS 001: GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT: CONCEPTS, APPROACHES AND STRATEGIES

Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA -01)

Programme Code: MAGD

Course Code: MGS-001

Assignment Code: MGS-001/AST-01/TMA/2026-27

Note: Answer all the questions. While questions in Section A carry 20 marks each (to be answered in about 700 words each), those in Section B carry 12 marks each (to be answered in about 500 words each).

Section-A

1. Define Development in relation to gender and discuss underdevelopment theories of Frank's Thesis of the Development of Underdevelopment and Wallerstein's World Systems Theory
2. Discuss the critique of the Women in Development (WID) approach and explain how this led to the emergence of the Gender and Development (GAD) approach.

Section B

3. Define Practical Gender Needs and Strategic Gender Needs with examples.
4. What is Affirmative Action? Explain some of the measures taken by Indian government related to Affirmative Action.
5. Analyse the rationale for mainstreaming gender in agriculture sector.
6. Explain the impact of Neoliberal Policies on women in contemporary India.
7. Write short notes on the following:
 - i) Substantive Equality
 - ii) Empowerment
 - iii) Gender Equality
 - iv) Radical Feminism