

ALLAMA IQBAL OPEN UNIVERSITY, ISLAMABAD
(Department of Mass Communication)

Course: Basic Concepts in Social Sciences - Part-I (5637)
Level: MSc

Semester: Autumn, 2025

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Each assignment carries 100 marks.
2. Write the assignments in your own words.
3. Your answers should not be based only on the information given in the study guide rather these should be based on the suggested readings prescribed in each unit of the guide.

Best of Luck

(Dr. Shahid Hussain)
Course Coordinator

ALLAMA IQBAL OPEN UNIVERSITY, ISLAMABAD
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WARNING

1. **PLAGIARISM OR HIRING OF GHOST WRITER(S) FOR SOLVING THE ASSIGNMENT(S) WILL DEBAR THE STUDENT FROM AWARD OF DEGREE/CERTIFICATE, IF FOUND AT ANY STAGE.**
2. **SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS BORROWED OR STOLEN FROM OTHER(S) AS ONE'S OWN WILL BE PENALIZED AS DEFINED IN "AIOU PLAGIARISM POLICY".**

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Please read the following instructions for writing your assignments.

(AD, BS, BEd, MA/MSc, MEd) (ODL Mode).

1. All questions are compulsory and carry equal marks but within a question the marks are distributed according to its requirements.
2. Read the question carefully and then answer it according to the requirements of the questions.
3. Avoid irrelevant discussion/information and reproducing from books, study guide or allied material.
4. Hand-written scanned assignments are not acceptable.
5. Upload your typed (in Word or PDF format) assignments on or before the due date.
6. Your own analysis and synthesis will be appreciated.
7. Late submission of assignments will not be accepted.
8. The students who attempt their assignments in Urdu/Arabic may upload a scanned copy of their hand written assignments (in PDF format) on University LMS. The size of the file should not exceed 5MB.

Total Marks: 100

Pass Marks: 40

ASSIGNMENT No. 1

(Units: 1-5)

- Q.1** What is meant by *modernization* in sociological terms? Analyse how modernization influences traditional social structures and cultural values. **(20)**
- Q.2** Define *culture* and discuss its various components. How does culture influence individual behaviour and social cohesion? **(20)**
- Q.3** Identify and explain the primary *social institutions* in a society. How do these institutions contribute to the maintenance of social order? **(20)**

Q.4 Critically evaluate the concept of *social change*. How do evolutionary and revolutionary theories differ in their interpretation of change in society? **(20)**

Q.5 Provide a comparative overview of major *theoretical paradigms* in sociology, such as functionalism, conflict theory, and symbolic interactionism. How does each explain social reality? **(20)**

Total Marks: 100

Pass Marks: 40

ASSIGNMENT No. 2

(Units: 6-9)

Q.1 Assess the recent trends in Pakistan's economic growth. What structural challenges continue to hinder sustainable development? **(20)**

Q.2 Explain the relationship between money supply and inflation in an economy. Evaluate how monetary policy in Pakistan addresses inflationary pressures. **(20)**

Q.3 Examine the notions of equilibrium and disequilibrium in the balance of payments. What internal and external factors commonly lead to disequilibrium in Pakistan's case? **(20)**

Q.4 How can capital markets, particularly the Pakistan Stock Exchange, contribute to economic development? Discuss with reference to market efficiency and investor participation. **(20)**

Q.5 Compare and contrast the concepts of balance of trade and balance of payments. How do these indicators influence economic policymaking in the context of globalization? **(20)**