

Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad

(Department of Sociology)

Course Title: Introduction to Sociology: Culture and Society

Semester: Spring, 2026

Course Code: (8226)

Level: Postgraduate

Dear students,

1. The course carries two assignments carrying 100 marks each.
2. Please write the assignments in your own words and do not copy from the books.
3. Only typed assignments (in MS Word or PDF format) will be accepted/ evaluated.
4. Try to give examples from your own social settings.
5. Discuss the complex issues of the course with your tutor in the tutorial meetings.

List of Contents

This course comprises the following materials.

1. Study guide/s (One)
2. Reader/Allied Material (one)
3. Assignments (two)
4. Assignment forms (two sets)
5. Assignments / Tutorials Schedule

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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 ASSIGNMENT(S) BORROWED OR STOLEN FROM OTHER(S) AS ONE'S OWN WILL BE PENALIZED AS DEFINED IN "AIOU PLAGIARISM POLICY".

Course: Introduction to Sociology: Culture and Society (8226) Semester: Spring, 2026

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Please read the following instructions for writing your assignments. (AD, BS, B.Ed, 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 answer it according to the requirements of the question.
3. Avoid irrelevant discussion/information and reproducing from books, study guides, or allied material.
4. Handwritten 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 assignments can't be uploaded to the LMS.
8. The students who attempt their assignments in Urdu/Arabic may upload a scanned copy of the handwritten assignments (in PDF format) on the University LMS. The size of the file should not exceed 5MB.

Total Marks: 100

Pass Marks: 40

ASSIGNMENT No. 1
(Unit: 1-4)

Q.No.1 (20)

Sociology is the scientific study of society and human behaviour. Critically discuss the origin, development, and scope of sociology as an academic discipline. Evaluate its importance in understanding contemporary social issues. Also analyse whether sociology can be considered a science by examining its methods, subject matter, and limitations. Support your answer with relevant examples from Pakistani society.

Q.No.2 (20)

Culture is the foundation of social life. Critically examine the meaning, characteristics, and major elements of culture. Discuss the processes of cultural integration and cultural diversity. Evaluate the impact of globalization on cultural change in both global and Pakistani contexts with suitable sociological examples.

Q.No.3 (20)

Society evolves through different historical stages of development. Critically analyse the major types of societies including hunting and gathering, pastoral, agrarian, industrial, and

post-industrial societies. Discuss how each type of society shapes social institutions, patterns of relationships, and systems of inequality. Illustrate your answer with relevant examples.

Q.No.4 (20)

Social interaction is the basis of everyday social life. Critically examine the concept of social interaction with special reference to nonverbal communication, social space, and time. Discuss how social norms regulate interaction in different settings such as family, classroom, workplace, and public spaces in Pakistan.

Q.No.5 (10+10)

Provide notes on the following topics:

- i. Nature and Types of Culture
- ii. Evolution and Characteristics of Society

Total Marks: 100

Pass Marks: 40

ASSIGNMENT No. 2
(Unit No.05-09)

Q.No.1 (20)

Social groups and organizations are central to social structure. Critically discuss the types of social groups, including primary and secondary groups. Analyse the role of voluntary associations and bureaucracy in modern society. Evaluate how social organizations contribute to social order and social change with examples from Pakistan.

Q.No.2 (20)

Socialization is a lifelong process of learning norms and values. Critically examine the process, stages, and agencies of socialization. Discuss theories of child development and analyse the effects of social isolation on personality formation. Relate your answer to the Pakistani social context.

Q.No.3 (20)

Conformity and deviance are essential to understanding social order. Critically analyse biological, psychological, and sociological explanations of deviance. Discuss the concepts of white-collar crime and social control. Evaluate the role of the criminal justice system in managing deviant behaviour in society.

Q.No.4 (20)

Social stratification and inequality are universal phenomena in society. Critically examine different systems of stratification including class, caste, and status. Discuss theoretical perspectives on stratification and explain the concept of social mobility. Evaluate class and caste structures in Pakistan with examples.

Q.No.5 (10+10)

Provide notes on the following topics:

- i. Socialization and Personality Development
- ii. Dimensions and Forms of Social Inequality