

**M.A. in Sustainability Science
(MASS)**

Programme Guide

School of Interdisciplinary and Trans disciplinary Studies

**Ground Floor, Block 15 , Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi- 110068 (India)**

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Dear Learner,

Welcome to the academic programme – M.A. in Sustainability Science (MASS). By enrolling into MASS programme you have become a student of IGNOU, one of the largest mega Universities in the world.

It is a matter of pride that the University is accredited as A ++ by National Assessment and Accreditation Council in the year 2021. The University is known worldwide for providing quality learner centric education that caters to the needs of 21st century learners.

It is quite likely that you are getting this first ever experience as a distance learner. We, as distance teachers are in fact physically at a distance from you. But as far as the teaching-learning activity is concerned we are very close to you and always with you in the form of our material and through other student support services. To start with, read this ‘Programme Guide’ thoroughly, keep it handy and refer it as and when you get any doubt about progressing further in this programme. By following this Programme Guide you will not only feel comfortable but also be able to manage your programme related activities very easily.

In course of your journey, you will notice that IGNOU is a university with a difference. Unlike conventional universities/institutions where teaching and learning take place mostly through face-to-face mode, IGNOU adopts a multimedia approach to facilitate teaching-learning activities. You will find that the printed self-learning material is the master medium of our instruction. It is supplemented with audio and video programmes, teleconferencing, web based counselling sessions and interactive radio counseling sessions. Further, you will also benefit from the face-to-face mode of interaction during counselling sessions organised at the Study Centre. Thus, you will realise that there are multiple modes which provide diverse opportunities for your interaction as well as facilitate your smooth progress through the programme.

MASS programme would provide you comprehensive exposure to theoretical and practical aspects, processes, issues and solutions etc., of Sustainable Development. The programme will equip you with necessary knowledge, understanding, skills, attitudes and competencies that will help you to build your capacity in sustainability assessment, planning and implementation activities. The information presented in this Programme Guide, will help you in organising and systematising your study in respect of various components and stages of the programme. This Programme Guide provides you important information about the programme as a whole, viz., its objectives, structure, mode of delivery, programme schedule, counselling sessions, assignments, evaluation, etc. It is expected that you will preserve this Programme Guide till you complete the programme as this Guide will help you clarify your doubts at different stages during the course of your academic journey through this programme.

With best wishes,

Programme Coordinators

M.A. in Sustainability Science (MASS)

1.0 ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

1.1 Introduction

Humanity faces many overlapping crises of environmental sustainability, including climate change as a result of human-caused emissions of greenhouse gases, massive environmental pollution, loss of biodiversity, the depletion of natural resources including energy (oil, gas, coal) and groundwater. Sustainable development is the only viable path for humanity and Sustainability Science is an emerging discipline that seeks to understand the fundamental characters of interactions between nature and society to accommodate sustainable development. It is observed that the lack of integration across sectors in terms of strategies, policies and implementation has long been perceived as one of the main pitfall of previous approaches to sustainable development. It will be achieved if it is build with a shared focus on environmental, social and economic goals. Developing countries like India have their own internal challenges of balancing growth and environmental sustainability; vulnerabilities to adverse trends such as climate change; and rising geopolitical roles, regionally and globally. Therefore, the member States of United Nations, following a decision taken at the Rio+20 conference propose Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to succeed the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as reference goals for the international community for the period 2015-2030. This requires establishing proactive approaches involving universities, governmental and non-governmental organizations for producing group of leaders who can integrate the overlapping issues of common goal, sustainability. Educational programme like MASS will ensure capacity building, and skill development in the field of Sustainability Science.

MASS is one of the innovative programmes of IGNOU offered through ODL mode utilising multiple media such as self-instructional print materials, information and communication technologies and personal contact sessions. The programme aims at promoting professional development and capacity building in the area of Sustainability Science and Sustainable Development. It is meant for any graduate and others with higher qualification who is presently employed or not i.e. it is for both *in-service* and *pre-service* persons.

The MASS programme mainly focuses on the genesis and principles of sustainable development, its tools, and implementation and assessment strategies in a holistic way. The basics of natural resource management, ecological economics, global and local efforts for sustainable development through good governance, law and policy are integrated in an academic framework so that students are able to understand the tools and techniques in developing and implementing sustainable development projects. The programme also takes care of Indi's Initiatives and commitment to Sustainable Development.

The National Education Policy 2020 aims to provide holistic and multidisciplinary education to the learners at higher education. The M.A. in Sustainability Science is a step in this direction. The Programme is also in line with NEP 2020 in terms of lateral entry and multiple entry and exit points.

1.2 Programme Offer and Coverage

MA in Sustainability Science is offered in both January and July sessions of every year. It is offered throughout the country through the established network of IGNOU Regional Centres.

1.3 Programme Objectives

- To provide opportunity to the learners to deepen their knowledge and understanding about sustainable development and the principles of sustainability science.
- To expand capacities of the learners on various theoretical and practical aspects of sustainable development.
- To develop professional knowledge and skills in formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation sustainable development projects and programmes

1.4 Target Learners

The target population of this programme includes, amongst others:

- 1) The persons holding at least a Bachelor's Degree and intending to pursue sustainable development and issues of sustainability as an area of study or specialization or career (Pre-service);
- 2) The persons holding at least a Bachelor's Degree and working in any sector (In-service), including those employed or involved in the field of Environmental policy, planning and social development such as:
 - Policy planners, administrators in different sectors like Indian administrative service.
 - Employees of the Institutes/NGOs, Private or Corporate sectors working in various social and ecological issues.
 - Programme Officers, Project Officers, Research Investigators, and Research Assistants dealing with Environment and Development programmes in various International and National Organizations.

1.5 Eligibility Criteria

Any Bachelor's Degree from a recognised University / Institute.

Lateral Entry

Lateral Entry for PGDSS students: For the lateral entry, the learners registered in PGDSS (both ODL and ONLINE) from July 2017 to Jan 2022, will have to complete the following **three courses in place of MSDP 018: Project Work** to complete the M.A. in Sustainability Science Programme.

MSD 019	Global Strategies to Sustainable Development	4 credits
MSD 020	Population, Health and Sustainability	4 credits
MEVE 016	Urban Environment	4 credits

1.6 Medium of Instruction

The medium of instruction of the programme is English.

1.7 Duration of the Programme

Minimum duration of the programme is 2 years and the maximum duration is 3 years.

1.8 Programme Fee

The fee for the entire programme is Rs.14000/- (University may revise the fee time to time. Please check with the advertisement or IGNOU website).

1.9 Prospects

The programme aims to grow engaged community of academics, practitioners and researchers to carry forward these issues. The programme shall equip the students as professional sustainability experts, project officer, Sustainability Analysts, etc. who can handle the cross cutting social issues to join National & International organizations. The programme caters to the needs of the students who are interested to continue their research in multidisciplinary fields. It will enhance the potential of freelance writers and journalists in the field of sustainable development. MASS holders will be fully equipped to serve various Government and NGOs dealing with Environment Development and Livelihood improvements. Fresh graduates who complete this Diploma will be the potential candidates suitable for employment at the grassroots, supervisory and other middle level positions in Environment and Development sector. The programme also strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of in-service personnel working in Government and Non-Government Organizations, Private or Corporate sectors and handling various sustainable development projects and programmes viz., Employees of the Institutes/NGOs, Private or Corporate sectors working in various Sustainable Development projects; Programme Officers, Project Officers, Research Investigators, and Research Assistants dealing with environment and development issues in various International and National Organizations. In- service professionals with MASS will be more potential candidates suitable for higher level positions in the field of Sustainable Development. In addition, they can act as more resourceful persons in the field. It also provides scope for those interested in establishing a local voluntary organization/NGO as a part of their self-employment and greater involvement in the field of ecological conservation and Sustainable Development.

2.0 PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK

The MASS consists of the following 15 theory courses and a project work. The MASS programme is of total 72 credits (1 credit = 30 hours of self study) as detailed below;

2.1 Course Contents

The structure of each of the above courses is given below.

➤ **FIRST YEAR**

MSD-011: SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE CREDIT: 4

Block 1	Introduction to Sustainable Development
Unit 1	Introduction to Sustainable Development
Unit 2	Principles and Goals of Sustainable Development
Unit 3	Global Challenges of Sustainable Development
Unit 4	Pathways to Sustainable Development
Block 2	Sustainability Science
Unit 1	Ecological Foundation of Basic Human Needs
Unit 2	Concept of Sustainability Science
Unit 3	Sustainability Indicators
Block 3	Approaches to sustainable development
Unit 1	Natural Resource Management
Unit 2	Landscape Ecology
Unit 3	Watershed Management
Unit 4	Participation in Policy and Planning
Block 4	Ecology, economics and ethics
Unit 1	Human Resource Development and Eco-Friendly Lifestyle
Unit 2	Education, Awareness and Environmental Ethics
Unit 3	Moving Towards Green Technology

MSD-012: ECOSYSTEM AND NATURAL RESOURCES Credit: 4

Block 1:	Ecosystem and natural resources
Unit 1	Concept of Ecosystem
Unit 2	Biodiversity: Levels, Distribution and Uses
Unit 3	Loss of Biodiversity
Unit 4	Biodiversity Conservation

Block 2	Land and water resources
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Unit 1	Land
Unit 2	Soil
Unit 3	Water: Status, Distribution and Quality
Unit 4	Water: Competitive Uses
Block 3	Energy and mineral resources
Unit 1	Renewable and Non-renewable Resources
Unit 2	Energy Resources
Unit 3	Mineral Resources
Unit 4	Sustainability Issues Related to Energy and Mineral Resources
Block 4	Agrobiodiversity
Unit 1	Agro biodiversity: Concept, Origin and Importance
Unit 2	Shrinking Agrobiodiversity: Causes and Consequences
Unit 3	Management of Agrobiodiversity
Unit 4	Promoting Genetic Diversity: Challenges and Opportunities

MSD-013: SOCIO-CULTURAL SYSTEM

Credit: 4

Block 1	Culture, Society And Environment
Unit 1	Introduction to Society and Culture
Unit 2	Human Ecology
Unit 3	Sustainability to Society and Culture
Unit 4	Environment and Human Relationship
Block 2	Social Change
Unit 1	Resources and Society
Unit 2	Social and Cultural Continuity
Unit 3	Environmentalism
Unit 4	Impact of Development
Block 3	Indigenous Knowledge Systems
Unit 1	Socio-Cultural Belief Systems
Unit 2	Customs and Traditions

Unit 3	Forests and Natural Resource Management
Unit 4	Cultural Dimension of Conservation: Innovation, IKS, IPR and Value Addition
Block 4	Developmental Pathways: Equity And Social Justice
Unit 1	The Equity Principle
Unit 2	Human Rights and Responsibilities
Unit 3	Community Participation
Unit 4	Responsibility of Homo Sapiens Towards Other Living Creatures

MSD-014: ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS

Credit: 4

Block 1	Ecology, environment and sustainability
Unit 1	The Ecology-Economy Interactions
Unit 2	Energy Balance Principle
Unit 3	The Ecological Limits to Economic Growth
Unit 4	Development and Environment
Block 2	Resource and economy
Unit 1	Economic Theories of Renewable and Non-Renewable Resources
Unit 2	Resource Exploitation and Environmental Degradation
Unit 3	Market, Trade and Environment
Unit 4	Economic Activity: Impacts
Block 3	Environmental Issues in India
Unit 1	Fragile Ecosystems, Livelihoods and Poverty
Unit 2	Environmental Pollution Problems of India
Unit 3	Common Pool Resources
Unit 4	Gender and Environment
Block4	Valuation and pricing of Natural Resources
Unit 1	Ecosystem Services and its Valuation
Unit 2	Policy Instruments for Pollution Control, Conservation and Clean Energy

Unit 3	Kyoto Protocol and Carbon Trading
Unit 4	Green National Income Accounting

MSD-015: INSTITUTIONS, GOVERNANCE AND POLICIES Credit: 4

Block 1	Institutional Mechanism
Unit 1	Basic Concepts of Institutions
Unit 2	Conventions and Protocols for Sustainable Development
Unit 3	International Organizations in Sustainable Development
Block 2	Governance
Unit 1	Governance: An Overview
Unit 2	Participatory and Decentralized Governance
Unit 3	Good Governance: Challenges and Attributes
Unit 4	Environmental Governance
Block 3	Policy Tools
Unit 1	International Environmental Governance
Unit 2	National Environmental Policies
Unit 3	Environmental Laws and Acts
Unit 4	Assessment Tools: EIA, SIA, Environmental Auditing, Environmental Management System

MSD-016: STRATEGIES AND MODELS FOR SUSTAINABILITY Credit: 4

Block 1	Strategies for Sustainable Development
Unit 1	Infrastructure Development
Unit 2	Health and Sanitation
Unit 3	Value-addition
Unit 4	Recycling, Reuse and Recovery
Block 2	Knowledge and technology for Sustainable rural development
Unit 1	Remote Sensing and Environmental Information Systems
Unit 2	Action Plan for Natural Resource Management: Micro Level Planning

Unit 3	Village Knowledge and Resource Centres
Unit 4	Biovillages Toolkit
Block 3	Evergreen Revolution
Unit 1	Green to Evergreen Revolution
Unit 2	Pathways to Sustainable Eco-agriculture
Unit 3	Sustainable On-Farm and Non-Farm Livelihoods
Unit 4	Equity and Market Linkages
Block 4	Models for Sustainability
Unit 1	Models and Sustainable Development
Unit 2	Sustainable Development in Himalaya
Unit 3	Sustainable Integrated Farming System
Unit 4	Cultural Landscape Based Sustainable Development Model

MSD-017: CHALLENGES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT Credit: 4

Block 1	Climate Change
Unit 1	Introduction to the Science of Climate Change
Unit 2	Climate Change and Natural Resources System
Unit 3	Human Dimensions of Climate Change
Unit 4	Adaptation and Mitigation
Block 2	Global Environmental Issues
Unit 1	Overpopulation and Resource Depletion
Unit 2	Energy Crisis
Unit 3	Urbanization
Unit 4	Pollution and Waste Generation
Block 3	Health, Nutrition and Environment,
Unit 1	Environment and Health
Unit 2	Health and Sanitation
Unit 3	Health Hazard
Unit 4	Nutrition

Block 4	Threats
Unit 1	Land Degradation
Unit 2	Desertification
Unit 3	Disasters
Unit 4	Biopiracy

MSD019: GLOBAL STRATEGIES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Credit : 4

Unit 1	SDG: An Overview
Unit 2	SDG 1: End Poverty
Unit 3	SDG 2: Zero Hunger
Unit 4	SDG 3: Good Health and Well Being
Unit 5	SDG 4: Quality Education
Unit 6	SDG 5: Gender Equality
Unit 7	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
Unit 8	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
Unit 9	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
Unit 10	SDG 9: Industry, Innovations and Infrastructure
Unit 11	SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities
Unit 12	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
Unit 13	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
Unit 14	SDG 13: Climate Action
Unit 15	SDG 14: Life Below Water
Unit 16	SDG 15: Life on Land
Unit 17	SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
Unit 18	SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals

MSD 020: POPULATION, HEALTH AND SUSTAINABILITY

Credit: 4

Block 1	Population, Human Development and Sustainable Development
Unit 1	Introduction to Population

Unit 2	Trends in Demographic Transition
Unit 3	Emerging Issues and India's Initiatives
Unit 4	Myths and Realities
Block 2	Key issues in Population and Sustainable Development
Unit 1	Sustainable Development and Sustainability
Unit 2	Population, Sustainability and the Marginalized
Unit 3	Role of Civil Society & Movements
Unit 4	Programmes and Policies Related to Population
Block 3	Nutrition Security)
Unit 1	Nutrition Security and Sustainable Development:
Unit 2	Interventions for Reducing Under nutrition in Infant and Young Children
Unit 3	Interventions for reducing under nutrition in Girls and Women
Block 4	Pandemics and Epidemics
Unit 1	Introduction to pandemics and epidemics
Unit 2	Pandemics, Epidemics and Economy
Unit 3	Pandemics, Epidemics and Society
Unit 4	Pandemics, Epidemics and Human wellbeing

➤ SECOND YEAR

MSD 021: MOUNTAIN AND HILL ECOSYSTEM

Credit: 4

Block 1	An Introduction to Mountain Ecosystem
Unit 1	Mountains of the world
Unit 2	Physical features of Mountains (Himalaya, Western Ghats)
Unit 3	Mountain Communities
Unit 4	Biodiversity in Mountains.
Unit 5	Upstream-downstream linkages
Block 2	Mountain Resources and Conservation
Unit 1	Forest based Mountain Livelihood Systems.

Unit 2	Crop and animal husbandry based
Unit 3	Allied Activities based
Unit 4	Service sector based
Block 3	Threats to Mountain Ecosystem
Unit 1	Development Initiatives and concept of sustainable development
Unit 2	Unsustainable Use of Natural Resources
Unit 3	Climate Change and Disaster Management
Unit 4	Pathways to Sustainable Development
Block 4	Global Monitoring Network
Unit 1	International conventions
Unit 2	Mountain and Agenda-21
Unit 3	Global Monitoring Network

MSD 022: AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM

Credit: 4

Block 1	Introduction to Aquatic Ecosystem
Unit 1	Aquatic Ecosystem
Unit 2	Origin of rivers, journey, Tributaries, Upstream and Downstream Linkages
Unit 3	Estuarine and Coastal Region.
Unit 4	Ecology and Environment of rivers Structure and Function
Unit 5	Marine Ecosystem
Block 2	Wetlands
Unit 1	Introduction to Wetland Ecosystem
Unit 2	Integrity, Productivity, Ecological, Economical and Social Benefits of Wetlands
Unit 3	Integrity, Productivity and Farming in Wetland Ecosystem
Unit 4	Recreation and Social Benefits of Wetland Ecosystem
Block 3	Aquatic Ecosystem and Livelihoods
Unit 1	Socio Economic Value of Rivers

Unit 2	Livelihood Security and River Ecosystem
Unit 3	Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, Fisheries Development, Industrial Development.
Unit 4	Research and Capacity Building
Block 4	Aquatic Ecosystems: Degradation, Restoration, and Conservation
Unit 1	Degradation due to natural processes
Unit 2	Degradation due to anthropogenic interventions
Unit 3	Restoration and Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystem
Unit 4	Global Initiatives on Sustainable Management of Aquatic Ecosystem

MSD 023: SOCIAL ECOLOGY, GLOBALISATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

Credit 4

Block 1	Introduction to Social Ecology and Globalization
Unit 1	Social Ecology and Human Ecology
Unit 2	Global Social Change
Unit 3	Social Ecology of Value, Tribal Ecology, LEK
Unit 4	Political Ecology, Limits to Growth and Social Ecology
Block 2	Globalisation and Livelihood
Unit 1	History of Globalization
Unit 2	Globalisation and Global Governance
Unit 3	Globalisation Index
Unit 4	Nature-Society-Technology
Block 3	Democracy, Social Ecology and Public
Unit 1	Sustainability Transition and Socio-technical transitions
Unit 2	Socio-institutional and Socio-economic transitions
Unit 3	Socio-ecological Transformation
Unit 4	Linking Science to Policy, Institutions and Collective Action
Block 4	Globalization and Sustainability
Unit 1	Globalization and International Business

Unit 2	Environmentalism, Environmental Justice and Eco-refugees
Unit 3	Global Economy, Global Trade and Economy
Unit 4	Globalisation and Sustainable Development

MEV 015: CLIMATE CHANGE AND SOCIETY

Credits: 4

Block 1	Climate Change And Human Society
Unit 1	Global Change Vulnerability Assessment
Unit 2	Climate Change and Indigenous Communities
Unit 3	Climate Refugees
Unit 4	Climate Change and Human Health
Block 2	Climate Change And Security
Unit 5	Impacts of Climate Change on Sovereign Security
Unit 6	Impacts of Climate Change on Vital System Security
Unit 7	Impacts of Climate Change on Population Security
Unit 8	Impacts of Climate Change on Human Security
Block 3	Socio-Economic Dimensions
Unit 9	Climate Justice
Unit 10	Social Movements and Global Civil Society
Unit 11	Climate Change and Gender
Block 4	Societal Responses To Anthropogenic Climate Change
Unit 12	State Response to Climate Change
Unit 13	Response of Subnational Government
Unit 14	Responses of Global South
Unit 15	Sustainable Development Goals

MEDS 051: FUNDAMENTALS OF CSR

Credit -6

Block 1	Evolution And Concept Of CSR
Unit 1	CSR: An Overview
Unit 2	Perspective in Global Context
Unit 3	Perspective in Indian Context

Block 2	CSR Legislation And Guidelines: Global And India
Unit 1	CSR Legislation in Other Countries
Unit 2	Companies Act, 2013
Unit 3	Other CSR Policy Guidelines
Unit 4	Other Related Rules and Guidelines
Block 3	Key Thematic Areas in CSR - I
Unit 1	Poverty Alleviation
Unit 2	Quality of Life Improvement
Unit 3	Employment Generation and Livelihood
Unit 4	Women Empowerment
Block 4	Key Thematic Areas in CSR - II
1.	Microfinance
2.	Environment Protection and Bio-diversity Conservation
3.	Education and Skill Development
4.	Awareness Creation
Block 5	Key Outcomes of CSR
1.	Democratizing Development
2.	Community Ownership
3.	Connecting the Last Mile

MEDS 044: MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES

Credit 6

Block 1	Project Formulation And Management
Unit 1	Project Formulation
Unit 2	Project Appraisal
Unit 3	Project Management
Block 2	MONITORING AND EVALUATION
Unit 1	Programme Planning
Unit 2	Monitoring

Unit 3	Evaluation
Block 3	MEASUREMENT AND SAMPLING
Unit 1	Measurement
Unit 2	Scales and Tests
Unit 3	Reliability and Validity
Unit 4	Sampling
Block 4	DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS
Unit 1	Quantitative Data Collection Methods and Devices
Unit 2	Qualitative Data Collection Methods and Devices
Unit 3	Statistical Tools
Unit 4	Data Processing and Analysis
Unit 5	Report Writing

MSDP 018: Project

Credit 8

3.0 INSTRUCTIONAL SYSTEM

The instructional system of IGNOU is more learner-oriented and learner-centred. In this system, the learner is an active participant in the teaching-learning process. Most of the instruction is imparted through distance modes of communication rather than face-to-face modes of communication. The University follows a multi-media approach for instruction. So, the instructional system of MASS also follows multi-media approach i.e. self-instructional print material, audio-video programmes, assignments, face-to-face counselling sessions, project work, teleconferencing and interactive radio counselling, among others.

3.1 Self-instructional Print Material

The print material is written in self-instructional style. It is in the form of blocks (booklets) specially prepared for theory courses and project work of the programme. Each course has a specific code number assigned to it. They are supplied to each learner. Each course may have 4 blocks and each block may have 3-4 units. The printed material for project work is available in the form of booklet with all guidelines.

3.2 Audio-video Programmes

The learning package also contains audio-video programmes which are produced by the University for clarification, supplementing and enhancement of understanding of the course material given to the student. These programmes are normally of 25-30 minutes duration. These are used at the Study Centres during counselling sessions which are duly scheduled

and notified by the Programme In-charge/Co-ordinator of Study Centre for the benefit of the students. The video programmes are also telecast on *Gyan Darshan*, National Network and enrichment channel of Doordarshan. Similarly, the audio programmes when produced are also broadcast by *Gyan Vani* and selected stations of All India Radio. Learners can contact Study Centres for further information.

3.3 Assignments

Assignments are an integral and compulsory component of the instructional system. There is one tutor-marked assignment for each theory course. Students will have to work on these assignments. Each student should submit the assignment responses to the Coordinator/ Programme In-charge of the Study Centre in accordance with the given assignments' submission schedule. **Students can download the assignments from IGNOU website (www.ignou.ac.in) at student's zone or programme specific WEAS portal.**

3.4 Counselling Sessions

3.5 Teleconferencing

Teleconferencing sessions are conducted via satellite through interactive *Gyan Darshan* Channel from the University studios as per the schedule made available to the Regional and Study Centres. Teleconferencing is an effective means of interaction between the learners, experts and others concerned with the programme. It provides an interesting opportunity to the students to interact with the faculty members at the headquarters, and other experts/eminent scholars in the field. The learners will have to go to the nearest reception centre at the scheduled time for taking the benefit of this facility.

3.6 Interactive Radio Counselling

Interactive Radio Counselling is a recent concept in distance learning in India. Live counselling is provided on radio by invited experts for an hour from different radio stations in the country. Students can ask questions right from their homes through telephone by availing the facility of toll free telephone number 1600112345 provided for this purpose from selected cities.

3.7 Online Asynchronous Counselling Sessions

Lectures are delivered by the experts through Swayam Prabha Channel 18, Facebook live, YouTube Live and online counselling sessions.

3.8 Web Enabled Academic Support (WEAS)

The academic student support is provided to the learners through Web Enabled Academic Support, an unique initiative of NCIDE, IGNOU. The portal provides one stop WEAS is a Single Window Platform providing various kinds of academic support including the study material, audio-video,

quiz, discussion forum, calendar of activities, web-based video counselling, links of various web-based resources to the distance learners by using simple and easily available ICT tools. The students enrolled in programmes being offered through WEAS are given access to their programme specific portal in which they are provided with course material in digital format, video and learning resources. The portal enables online peer-to-peer interaction and discussion, it also gives an opportunity to the learners to learn and interact virtually with teachers and experts.

3.9 Project Work

The hand book on Project Work provides self-orientation and self-training to the students for doing the project work. **All the project proposals are to be submitted to the School directly at the following address:**

Programme Coordinator (MASS)

School of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies

Block-15, Indira Gandhi National Open University Maidan Garhi,
New Delhi-110068

The completed project report is to be submitted to the Student Evaluation Division.

Please see the 'MSDP-018 - Project Handbook' for guidelines to prepare and submit the project proposal as well as project report.

4.0 DELIVERY SYSTEM

The MASS programme is delivered as a continuous programme of two years duration starting from the beginning of the relevant academic session. Different divisions of the IGNOU system are involved in delivering the programme — supplying/despatching the materials, providing student support services/facilities, etc. to you. In case if you face any problem/ difficulty at any stage, you can contact the following persons.

Whom to Contact for What?

- For identity card, fee receipt, change of address, bonafide certificates, migration certificate, scholarship forms, non-receipt of study material and assignments contact the concerned Regional Centre.
- For assignments, you can obtain it from the concerned Study Centre or the Regional Centre. Or, you can download the same from IGNOU website: www.ignou.ac.in Or, send an e-mail to the school <mass@ignou.ac.in> or WEAS-MASS portal.

- For non-reflection of assignment grades/marks in your grade card, contact the Regional Director of the concerned Regional Centre and Asstt. Registrar (Assignments), Student Evaluation Division (SED), Block-3, Room No. 12, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068. (E-mail: assignments@ignou.ac.in; Phone: 29535924 / Extn.1312, 1319, 1325)
- For queries relating to examinations, date-sheets, result, early declaration of results, transcripts, rechecking, grade card, provisional certificate you can contact Dy. Registrar (Examination-III), SED, Block-12, Room No. 1, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi- 110068 (Phone: 29536103, 29535924-32/Extn. 2201, 2211, 1316)
- For Original Degree/Diploma/Verification of Degree/Diploma, Convocation, contact the DR (Exam-I) SED, IGNOU, Block-9, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068. (Phone: 29532294, 29535924/Extn.1313).
- For student grievances (SED) contact the Asstt. Registrar (Student Grievances), SED, Block-3, Room No.13, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068 (E-mail: sregrievances@ignou.ac.in; Phone: 29532234, 29535924/ Extn. 1313).
- For purchase of Audio/Video Tapes contact the Marketing Unit, EMPC, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068.
- For the schedules of counselling on assignment responses contact the Coordinator/Programme In-charge of the concerned Programme Study Centre or check at WEAS-MASS portal.

For project work related information and for information on academic matters contact the Programme Coordinator (MASS), School of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies Block-15, Ground Floor, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068. Email: mass@ignou.ac.in

5.0 EVALUATION

Theory Courses: For theory courses, evaluation comprises three aspects:

- a) Self-evaluation check your progress exercises (non-credit) within each Unit of study material.
- b) Continuous evaluation in the form of compulsory one assignment for each course with a weightage of 30%.
- c) Term-End Examination for each course with a weightage of 70%.

In order to successfully complete a theory course, the student must obtain at least '40%' in the assignment and '40%' in the Term-End Examination (TEE) separately in each course.

Project Work: The evaluation report of Project Work will carry 75% weightage for report and 25% on viva. In order to successfully complete the project work, the student must obtain at least '40%'.

The grading system depending on the percentage of marks secured by the

candidates in TEE and evaluation report for Project Work will be as follows.

Letter Grade	Qualitative Level	Grade Points	Average Grade Point Range	Percentage Equivalent
A	Excellent	5	4.50 & above	80% and above
B	Very Good	4	3.50 to 4.49	60% to 79.9%
C	Good	3	2.50 to 3.49	50% to 59.9%
D	Satisfactory	2	1.50 to 2.49	40% to 49.9%
E	Unsatisfactory	1	1.49 & below	Below 40%

6.0 ASSIGNMENTS

The purpose to work on the assignments is to provide you an opportunity of articulating your assimilated knowledge and understanding into written form and also to test your capacity of transferring the theoretical learning from the courses to practical situations. Thus, the assignments practically enhance your understanding as well as skills of articulation and expression in writing. There is one assignment for each theory course. The answers to assignment questions are to be based on your own judgement and experiences as a student. You should not reproduce the text materials or copy the information from other sources. However, you may use the course material and any other sources of information you have for ready reference. But, the answer should be in your own words and should reflect your own ideas. Please note that your assignment responses carry 30% weightage towards the final evaluation of each theory course. If you do not complete the assignments according to time schedule of assignments of the relevant academic session, then you have to attempt the assignment questions of the next session and submit the assignment responses according to the schedule of that session. The instructions given in the assignments should be kept in mind while you prepare and submit the assignment responses.

7.0 TERM-END EXAMINATION (TEE)

The TEE is another component of the evaluation system with 70% weightage for each theory course. The University conducts term-end examination (TEE) twice a year i.e. in June and in December of every year. In case you fail to get a pass score (less than 50%) in the TEE, you will be eligible to re-appear in the next TEE for that course, till the final span of the programme i. e. prior to completion by you of the maximum duration of three years from the date of your admission / registration cycle to the programme.

Examination date-sheets (schedule which indicate the date and time of examination for each course) are sent to all the study centres and the same is also notified through the IGNOU website.

It is a pre-requisite to submit the online Examination Form with a fee of Rs.120/- (revised from time to time) per course.

- Normally your Study Centre is the Examination Centre. In case you wish to take examination at a particular centre, the code of your chosen centre is to be filled up as Examination Centre Code. However, if Examination Centre chosen by you is not activated, you will be allotted to any other Examination Centre under the same Region.
- Change of Examination Centre, once allotted, is not permissible under any circumstances.

The tentative dates for submission of Examination Forms are given below.

For June TEE	For December TEE	Late Fee
1st March to 31st March	1st September to 30th September	NIL
1st April to 20th April	1st October to 20th October	Rs.300/-
21st April to 30th April	21 st October to 31 st October	Rs.500/-
1 May to 15th May	1 st November to 15th November	Rs.1000/-

Issue of Examination Intimation Slip: University issues Examination Intimation Slip to the students at least 2 weeks before commencement of the term-end examination and also uploads the information at the University's website: www.ignou.ac.in. If they do not receive Examination Intimation Slip within a week before commencement of the examination, they may download the Examination Intimation Slip for the examination from the website.

8.0 GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- Please file all letters that the University sends you, and keep the Programme Guide handy. A record of your progress is maintained at IGNOU, New Delhi.
- Do write to us if you have any difficulties while working through the programme. Remember to intimate the relevant authority sufficiently in advance, if there is any change of address. This will help the concerned authority to send you course material, any information and letters promptly, without any delay or the risk of their being lost.
- Please try to attend as many counselling sessions as possible so as to get the best out of the programme.
- When you receive the printed materials, read the units carefully and note down the important points. You can use the space in the broad margin of the printed pages for making notes and writing your comments.
- Try to answer 'Check Your Progress' questions. Please remember, the

answers to these questions are not to be sent to us. The purpose is to enable you to evaluate your own performance and keep you on the right track. They will enhance your comprehension of the subject matter. You can compare your answers with those given at the end of the unit.

9.0 CONTACT DETAILS

Programme Coordinators (MASS)

Email: mass@ignou.ac.in

Dr. Y.S.C. Khuman, Email: ysckhuman@ignou.ac.in, Mobile: 9953172074

Dr. Deeksha Dave, Email: deekshadave@ignou.ac.in, Mobile: 9999660192

School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies (SOITS),

Indira Gandhi National Open University,

IGNOU, Block-15, Ground Floor

Maidan Garhi, New Delhi – 110068.

Director,

School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies (SOITS)

IGNOU, Block-15, Ground Floor

Indira Gandhi National Open University

Maidan Garhi, New Delhi – 110068.

Email: director.soits@ignou.ac.in

10.0 ONLINE FACILITIES

IGNOU website is www.ignou.ac.in. A few important links under the site are enlisted here.

- i) **Schools:** Where you will get the information about the programmes offered by different schools.
- ii) **For students:** Results; catalogue for print media and audio video; download facilities for assignment, question papers ; queries about admission, registration, material despatch detail, address checking, convocation; TEE date sheet; examination form; campus placement and prospectus and application form. Here you will get the electronic version of the prospectus and application form, information about the admission data, hall ticket and result.
- iii) **Division:** Under this section, there are links of Material Production and Distribution Division, Regional Service Division, Student Registration Division and Student Evaluation Division.

- iv) **Student Registration Division** : This link will give you information about admission and re-admission.
- v) **Student Evaluation Division** : This link give information about TEE, results, assignment etc.
- vi) **Electronic Media**: You will get the information about the Gyan Darshan Schedule, Gyan Vani schedule, Interactive Radio Counselling, Teleconferencing schedule and feedback form.
- vii) **WEAS**:
- <https://sites.google.com/ignou.ac.in/weas/mass?authuser=0>
 - <https://sites.google.com/ignou.ac.in/mass/about>