

FREE GUIDE | JULY 2026 AND JANUARY 2027 SESSIONS

IGNOU Assignments 2026-27: The Rules IGNOU Prints, in One Place

Which booklet to answer, which date applies, how to present it, how the marks work, and how to use solved reference material honestly. Every rule in this guide is taken from an IGNOU document read on 1 October 2026, and each document is named so that you can check it yourself.

Fact	What it means for you	Source
31 October 2026	Last date for assignments of the December 2026 term-end examination, hard copy and soft copy, ODL and Online programmes	SED notification dated 1 October 2026
Your programme's booklet	One course code can have different booklets, with different dates, in different programmes	BEVAE-181 booklets of four programmes
Typed copies refused	Typed and computer-printed assignments are not permitted, except for learners with a disability certificate	MLIS booklet 2026-27; Prospectus p. 397
Each part passes separately	A good total cannot rescue an assignment below its own pass mark; pass marks differ by course	BCA_NEW Programme Guide 5.1

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Documents read for this guide (1 October 2026)

Document	Issued by
Notification IG/SED/Assignment/TEE/December-2026, dated 1 October 2026	Student Evaluation Division, Assignment Section
BSSS-183 Life Skills assignment, July 2026 and January 2027	School of Social Sciences
MLIS assignments for July 2026 and January 2027 sessions (April 2026)	Faculty of Library and Information Science, SOSS
M.A. Psychology assignments, July 2026 and January 2027	School of Social Sciences
BCA_NEW Programme Guide, Version 2.0 (July 2026)	School of Computer and Information Sciences
BEVAE-181 booklets in the BCA_NEW, BAFSM, BSCAEY and BBA programmes	SOCIS, SOTHSM, SOET and SOMS
IGNOU Common Prospectus July 2026 (CP/1/26/V1/16.06.2026)	IGNOU
IGNOU Assignment Portal, webservices.ignou.ac.in/assignments	IGNOU

1. Find the booklet for your programme

IGNOU publishes assignment booklets free on its Assignment Portal at **webservices.ignou.ac.in/assignments**, which lists Master's, Bachelor's, PG Diploma, Diploma, Certificate, PG Certificate and Appreciation programmes. Programme guides and Study Centre notices also link the download page at ignou.ac.in/studentService/download/assignments.

- Open the portal, choose your level, then your programme, then the year or semester and the medium.
- On the cover, check the sessions the booklet is valid for, for example "July 2026 and January 2027".
- Note the assignment code, for example BSSS-183/ASST/TMA, and the dates and place of submission printed inside.
- Download the Hindi booklet separately if you write in Hindi and IGNOU publishes one for your course.

The same course code, four different booklets

A course shared by several programmes is not always one booklet. BEVAE-181 Environmental Studies is taught in many programmes, and the booklets read on 1 October 2026 print different dates:

Programme booklet	School	Dates printed
BCA_NEW Semester I, July 2026 and January 2027 sessions	SOCIS	31 October 2026 for the July 2026 session
BAFSM assignments booklet 2026	SOTHSM	30 April 2026 and 30 October 2026
BSCAEY First Semester, January 2026	SOET	31 May 2026 for June TEE; 30 September 2026 for December TEE
BBA First Semester, 2025-26	SOMS	15 October 2025 for December TEE; 15 March 2026 for June TEE

Rule of thumb: download the booklet listed under your own programme, even when the course code looks common.

2. Find your last date

December 2026 term-end examination: 31 October 2026. By a notification dated 1 October 2026, IGNOU's Student Evaluation Division further extended the last date for submitting assignments, in hard copy and soft copy, for ODL and Online programmes, GOAL and EVBB, to 31 October 2026.

For other examinations, the date printed in your booklet decides. Which examination a session leads to depends on how often your programme registers you:

If your programme...	July session leads to	Dates printed in 2026-27 documents
re-registers you every six months, as BCA_NEW does	December term-end examination	BCA_NEW Semester I: 31 October 2026 (July 2026); 30 April 2027 (January 2027) for most courses
registers you once a year, as MLIS and M.A. Psychology do; the BSSS-183 booklet gives CBCS BAG, BAM, BSCM and BCOMF learners the same pattern	June term-end examination of the next year	31 March 2027 for July 2026 learners; 30 September 2027 for January 2027 learners (MLIS, M.A. Psychology)

Read your booklet slowly

Booklets can carry misprints. The BSSS-183 Life Skills booklet for 2026-27 prints "30th September 2076" as the date for January 2027 learners, where other School of Social Sciences booklets for the same cycle print 30 September 2027. When a date looks wrong, confirm it with your Study Centre.

If you miss your date

- Your session's booklet stops being valid for you. You answer the fresh set of the next session (MLIS booklet, instruction 1; BCA_NEW Programme Guide 5.3).
- The Study Centre Coordinator has the right to reject assignments received after the due date (BCA_NEW Programme Guide 5.3).
- Without the required assignments, you are not allowed to appear in the term-end examination of that course (BCA_NEW Programme Guide 5.3); the Prospectus warns that results are liable to be withheld (p. 27).

3. Rules IGNOU prints on booklets and guides

These rules are printed by IGNOU itself. A rule printed in one programme's booklet may be worded differently in another, so read your own booklet as well.

Rule	Where it is printed
Write the answers in your own words, within the approximate word limit	BSSS-183 2026-27; M.A. Psychology 2026-27; MPA 2025-26
Do not reproduce answers from the units: you get a zero (MLIS) or poor marks (BCA_NEW)	MLIS booklet 2026-27; BCA_NEW Guide 5.2
If copying from other students is noticed, the assignments are rejected	MLIS 2026-27; M.A. Psychology 2026-27; BCA_NEW Guide 5.2 adds disciplinary action
Typed and computer-printed assignments are not permissible	MLIS booklet 2026-27, instruction 7
Response sheets must be handwritten; software code, screenshots and test cases may be printed	BCA_NEW Guide 5.2
Learners with a valid disability certificate may submit typed assignments	Common Prospectus July 2026, p. 397
Follow the first-page format strictly, or the assignment may not be evaluated	MLIS booklet 2026-27, instruction 3
Write each assignment separately, not continuously in one notebook	BCA_NEW Guide 5.2; M.A. Psychology 2026-27
Submit to the Coordinator of your Study Centre, take a receipt and keep a photocopy	BSSS-183 2026-27; M.A. Psychology 2026-27
Your Regional Centre may allow online submission on its website	BSSS-183 2026-27
Once you pass an assignment, you cannot resubmit it to improve the marks	BCA_NEW Guide 5.3
Assignments are not re-evaluated, except to correct factual errors	BCA_NEW Guide 5.3

4. Presenting the answer sheet

IGNOU booklets ask for your enrolment number, name, address, assignment code and Study Centre code on the first page. The MLIS booklet prints this layout:

Left side of the first page	Right side of the first page
Programme Title/Code	Enrolment No.
Course Title/Code	Name
Assignment Number	Address
Study Centre (Code) and Study Centre name	Date

There is no single "IGNOU format"

Paper and margins differ between programmes. Use what your own booklet or Programme Guide prints.

Item	MLIS booklet 2026-27	BCA_NEW Programme Guide	Study Centre example
Paper	Foolscap size, neither too thick nor too thin	A4, avoid very thin paper	A4 ruled or white (St Xavier's College Kolkata centre)
Left margin	3 inches	4 cm	4 cm
Between answers	At least 4 lines	At least 4 lines	Some space
Binding	Not specified	Tag all pages carefully	Stitched with thread; stapled files not accepted

- Write the question number with each answer, and leave the margin clear for the evaluator's comments.
- Underline the points you want to emphasise (BSSS-183 booklet).
- Answer all questions you are required to answer: incomplete answer sheets bring poor grades (MLIS booklet; BCA_NEW Guide 5.3).

5. Answer length and structure

Follow the word limit your booklet prints. Examples from 2026-27 documents:

BSSS-183 asks for about 500 words per 20-mark question; the BCA_NEW Programme Guide says that where no limit is printed you should assume about 300 words at least, and that an answer must not exceed a limit that is printed. Where your booklet prints nothing, many learners use the editorial guide below.

Marks	Editorial guide when no limit is printed	What the answer needs
5	150 to 200 words	One focused point, defined and briefly explained
10	250 to 350 words	Two or three points, each with a short explanation
20	About 500 words	Introduction, four to six headed points with examples, conclusion

A structure that works for essay questions

- **Introduction:** restate the question in one line and define the key term.
- **Body:** two to six points, each with a heading, an explanation and one example from the units or from your own surroundings.
- **A table or diagram** where the subject allows it, drawn by hand.
- **Conclusion:** answer the question directly in two or three lines.
- Numerical, programming and practical questions follow the form the question itself sets.

The free BSSS-183 solved sample from ignouproject.com shows this structure on five real 2026-27 questions, with the word count of each answer.

6. How the marks work

Most theory courses give the assignment 30 per cent of the course result and the term-end examination 70 per cent, as the BSSS-183 booklet states. Some courses differ: the BCA_NEW Programme Guide gives 25 per cent to the assignment in several computing courses, and 10 per cent continuous assessment, 30 per cent theory and 60 per cent practical in MSEI-023 and MSEI-027.

Each component must pass on its own

A course is completed only when the assignment and the term-end examination each reach their own pass mark. Pass marks differ by programme and even by course:

Where	Pass mark printed	Source
BCA_NEW: most computing courses	40 per cent in each component	BCA_NEW Guide 5.1
BCA_NEW: BEGLA-136, BEVAE-181, FEG-02, BCS-040, BCOC-131, BCOS-184, BECS-184, BCOS-185	35 per cent in each component	BCA_NEW Guide 5.1
BCA_NEW: MSEI-023 and MSEI-027	50 per cent in each component	BCA_NEW Guide 5.1
MAENOH programme	40 per cent in each component	Prospectus July 2026, p. 95
BFDI 073 (BA Honours)	50 per cent in each component	Prospectus July 2026, p. 226
DGTVSQN Employability Skills	Term-end examination only, 75 per cent	Prospectus July 2026, p. 371
CBCS ten-point scale	D (Pass) above 35 to below 40; F below 35	Prospectus July 2026, p. 26

Worked example

Assignment 32 per cent, term-end examination 68 per cent, weightage 30:70.

Weighted total = $0.30 \times 32 + 0.70 \times 68 = 57.2$. If the pass mark is 35 or 40 per cent in each component, the course is **not completed**, because the assignment is below its own pass mark. The assignment has to be done again with a fresh booklet.

Two more rules: once you pass an assignment, you cannot resubmit it to improve the marks, and assignments are not re-evaluated except for factual errors (BCA_NEW Guide 5.3). Read the evaluation section of your own Programme Guide for your exact figures.

7. Using a solved reference honestly

A solved assignment is a reference answer set for study, like a worked example in a textbook. IGNOU booklets ask you to write in your own words, give zero or poor marks for reproducing the units, and reject assignments when copying is noticed. The safe method is:

Step	What to do	Why it works
1. Read	Read the solved answer once, without writing anything	You see the structure and coverage
2. Recall	Close it and write the main points from memory on rough paper	Retrieval builds memory
3. Compare	Check your points against the reference and the units	You find exactly what you missed
4. Rewrite	Write the final answer in your own words and handwriting, adding your own example	The answer becomes yours

Never do this

- Submit a printout or a photocopy of any solved file.
- Copy a solved answer word for word: many learners can read the same file.
- Use answers prepared for another session's booklet without checking that the questions match yours.

8. Plan backwards from your date

Count back from the date printed for your session (or 31 October 2026 for the December 2026 examination) and spread the work. IGNOU does not prescribe this plan; it is a planning aid.

Weeks before your date	Work
6	Download your programme's booklet; list your course codes and the questions you will attempt
5	Read the units each question is based on; mark key points
4	Outline each answer: introduction, headed points, example, conclusion
3	Write rough drafts in your own words; compare with a reference and fix gaps
2	Write the final copy by hand on the paper your booklet asks for
1	Proofread, check word limits and the first page, assemble, submit, take the receipt

9. Submit, keep proof and track

- Submit to the Coordinator of your Study Centre, or upload where your Regional Centre allows online submission.
- Keep the receipt and a photocopy or scan of every assignment until the marks appear on your grade card.
- The Study Centre returns evaluated assignments and sends the marks to the Student Evaluation Division.
- To check whether marks have been updated, see ignouproject.com/ignou-assignment-result/.
- For assignment-marks queries, the Prospectus lists assignment@ignou.ac.in and 011-29571325 (p. 406).

Printable checklist

Check	Item
☐	The booklet is for my programme and is valid for my session
☐	I know my last date from the booklet or the current SED notice
☐	I am answering the required number of questions from each section
☐	Every answer is in my own words and handwriting
☐	No answer is copied from the units, a classmate or a solved file
☐	Each answer is within the approximate word limit
☐	The first page carries enrolment number, name, address, assignment code and Study Centre code
☐	Question numbers are written; margins and gaps are left
☐	Each course's assignment is written separately
☐	I have a photocopy or scan of everything
☐	I have submitted to my Study Centre or the approved online link
☐	I have the receipt

Sources

- IGNOU SED notification IG/SED/Assignment/TEE/December-2026, 1 October 2026: ignou.ac.in/viewFile/SED/notification/Extension-for-Assignments-TEE-DEC26.pdf
- BSSS-183 assignment 2026-27: ignou.ac.in/viewFile/SOSS/assignments/BSSS-183-E-26-27.pdf
- MLIS assignments 2026-27: ignou.ac.in/viewFile/SOSS/assignments/MLII-101-MLIS-2026-27.pdf
- BCA_NEW Programme Guide, Version 2.0: ignou.ac.in/viewFile/SOCIS/programmeguide/BCA_NEW-May-2026.pdf
- IGNOU Assignment Portal: webservices.ignou.ac.in/assignments
- IGNOU Common Prospectus July 2026: ignou.ac.in/viewFile/services/Common_Prospectus/common-prospectus-july-2026-V-L-1-1.pdf

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