



FIRST SEMESTER 2015-2016

Course Handout Part II

Date: 03/08/2015

In addition to part-I (General Handout for all courses appended to the time table) this portion gives further specific details regarding the course.

Course No. : BITS C393 / GS F243
Course Title : Current Affairs
Instructor-in-charge : S. K. CHOUDHARY

1. Scope and Objective of the course:

The objectives of the course are to instill in students the habit of keeping themselves updated on a host of issues that relate not only to an individual but the society at large and also to inculcate among the students the skills of reading, understanding, interpreting and forming an opinion on national and international events and issues of different nature and of various domains.

2. Text Book:

Hartley, J. *Understanding News*. London: Routledge. 1991 (2nd Edn.).

3. Reference Books:

- (i) Fink, Conrad C. *Writing Opinion for Impact*. Delhi: Surjeet Publications. 2005.
- (ii) Wallace, Michael J. *Study Skills in English*. New Delhi: CUP Foundation Books Pvt. Ltd. 2007.

4. Course Structure:

| Lecture. No. | Learning Objectives | Topics to be covered | Reference Unit |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1-2 | Current Affairs-An overview | Introduction to, Importance and scope of Current Affairs | Ch. 1 |
| 3-4 | To understand various domains of current affairs | Domains of Current Affairs- Political, Social, Religious, Scientific, Developmental, etc. | Ch. 3 |





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|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 5-6 | To understand the importance of reader as well as writer's background in interpreting any events/issues/news | Issues in Current Affairs-Controversial, Non-controversial, Neutral | Ch. 4 |
| 7-9 | To explore the possible sources of current affairs | Sources of Information in Current Affairs-newspapers, Magazines, Posters, Pamphlets, Manifestoes, Recently published books, etc. | |
| 10-14 | To develop the skills of reading and understanding | Reading: Skimming & Scanning; Extensive vs. Intensive; comprehension | Supplementary materials |
| 15-16 | Reading and conceptualizing meaning of events/issues/news | Understanding current issues, events and information | Ch. 2 |
| 17-18 | Exploring implications | Interpreting current issues, events and information | Ch. 8 |
| 19-22 | Opinion formation and role of ideology | Opinion formation-factors and materials influencing opinion formation | Ch. 9 |
| 23-24 | Neutralizing ideological bias | Balancing opinion | Ch. 10 |
| 25-26 | Presentation of views/opinion | Expressing opinion | Ch. 9 & 10 |
| 27-30 | Interacting/ listening / forming ideas/opinion | Guest Expert lectures and interactions | |
| 31-40 | Reading, discussion, formation and presentation of opinions | Practical | |

5. Evaluation Scheme:

| EC.NO. | Evaluation Component | Weightage | Duration | Date, Time | Remarks |
|--------|----------------------|-----------|----------|------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1 | Mid Semester Test | 30 | 90 mts | | Open Source (based on previous week's) |





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Instruction Division

| | | | | | Newspapers) |
|---|--------------|----|--------|------------------------------|-------------|
| 2 | Quiz | 10 | 50 mts | To be announced in the class | CB |
| 3 | Assignments* | 20 | | | |
| 4 | Comp Exam | 40 | 3 Hrs | 2/12 FN | Close Book |

6. * Assignments:

Two Written Assignments: one pre announced in the class and one Home Take-10% each

7. Chamber Consultation Hour: To be announced in the class.

8. Notices: The notices concerning the course will be displayed on the Languages Group and FD-I notice boards.

9. Make-up Policy:

The make-up for an evaluation component will be given only in genuine cases. However, the student has to contact his/her instructor for his/her approval. In these matters his/her decision shall be final.

Instructor-in-charge

BITS C393



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