



SECOND SEMESTER 2020-2021

Course Handout Part II

Date: 18/01/2021

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. : GS F243
Course Title : Current Affairs
Instructor-in-charge : S. K. CHOUDHARY

1. Course Description:

2. 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.

3. Learning Outcomes:

Having successfully completed all the modules of the course, students will be able to

- ✓ Read about, listen to, interpret and understand current issues covered in print, visual and electronic media
- ✓ Analyze an issue from various perspectives and understand their implications for an individual, a nation and the society at large
- ✓ Identify ideological biases in people's opinion
- ✓ Form their informed opinion on any given issue
- ✓ Express their opinion in an effective manner

4. Text Book:

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

5. Reference Materials:

- (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.
- (iii) National Newspapers and News magazines like India Today and Outlook

6. Course Structure:





Lecture No.	Learning Objectives	Topics to be covered	Reference Unit	Learning Outcome
1-2	Current Affairs-An overview	Introduction to, Importance and scope of Current Affairs	Ch. 1	To understand importance of issues in current affairs
3-4	To understand various domains of current affairs	Domains of Current Affairs- Political, Social, Religious, Scientific, Developmental, etc.	Ch. 3	To know how to categorize issues into various domains
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	To realize how certain issues generates enormous reactions from various sections of society
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.		To know the sources of information related to current issues
10-14	To develop the skills of reading and understanding	Reading: Skimming & Scanning; Extensive vs. Intensive; comprehension	Supplementary materials	To learn various skills of reading
15-16	Reading and conceptualizing meaning of events/issues/news	Understanding current issues, events and information	Ch. 2	To learn how to understand the content of an issue
17-18	Exploring implications	Interpreting current issues, events and information	Ch. 8	To learn how to analyze an issue
19-22	Opinion formation and role of ideology	Opinion formation-factors and materials influencing opinion formation	Ch. 9	To learn how to form one's opinion on a given issue
23-24	Neutralizing ideological bias	Balancing opinion	Ch. 10	To learn how to





				identify the ideological biases in someone's opinion
25-26	Presentation of views/opinion	Expressing opinion	Ch. 9 & 10	To develop the skill of giving one's opinion
27-30	Interacting/ listening / forming ideas/opinion	Guest Expert lectures and interactions		To develop the skills of listening and interpretation
31-40	Reading, discussion, formation and presentation of opinions	Practical		

7. Evaluation Scheme:

EC.NO.	Evaluation Component	Weightage	Duration	Date, Time	Remarks
1	Mid Semester Test	60			
2	Quiz	20			
3	Assignments*	40			
4	Comp Exam	80			

5. *Class Assignments:

Assignment: Written-40 (Home take -20; class-20)

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

8. Notices: The notices concerning the course will be displayed on the HSS Dept. notice board.

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

