



Date: 30-03-2026

GAUHATI UNIVERSITY
CENTRE FOR DISTANCE AND ONLINE EDUCATION

HOME ASSIGNMENT

M.A. in Mass Communication

Semester - I (Session: 2025-26 (January))

Guidelines for Submission:

1. Learners who have been admitted in the Academic Session (2025-26 (January)) will write the Home Assignment.
2. Learners should write their **Roll Number, GU Registration Number, Subject, Semester, Paper Title, Paper Code** and **Name of the Study Center** clearly on the first page of the answer script in the space provided.
3. The formats of the answer scripts are available at and can be downloaded from the GUCDOE website (www.gucdoe.in).
4. There will be 2 (two) compulsory questions in each paper with options (Total Marks: 2 questions x 10 marks = 20 marks).
5. **Typed/Computerized answers will not be accepted.** Learners will write the answers neatly in their own handwriting.
6. Answer to a 10 mark question should not exceed 400 words.
7. Learners should not submit any plagiarized answers as such a practice is deemed to be unfair.
8. Learners of different Study Centers under GUCDOE will mandatorily submit the answer scripts at their respective Study Centers.
9. Learners of GUCDOE center will submit their answer scripts at GUCDOE Office.
10. **Last Date of Submission: 30th April, 2026.**

PAPER: MMC 1015 (Indian Society and Politics)

Answer **any two** from the following questions:

2 x 10 = 20

Q. No. 1. Discuss the different types of powers of the Sixth Schedule Councils, specifically elucidating the Village Level Democracy as reflected in the Sixth Schedule Administration. Also evaluate the role of the Sixth Schedule in the Constitution of India in preserving tribal customs and traditions while balancing democratic governance in North-East (NE) India. Cite relevant examples like Village Councils and Development Boards in your answer. **10**

Q. No. 2. Elaborate on the Structure and Functions of the Union Government of India with relevant examples. Also elucidate the Role of the President of India in the Union Government of India, specifically highlighting His/Her Legislative Powers and Emergency Powers. Critically evaluate the arguments for and against the Emergency Powers of the President of India as discussed in the Constituent Assembly. **10**

Q. No. 3. Elaborate on the Powers and Functions of the Prime Minister of India and also write why the Prime Minister is called the 'Leader of the Executive' of the Union Government of India? Also give an idea about the concept, classifications and significance of the Parliamentary Privileges in India. **10**

Q. No. 4. Discuss the Powers and Functions of the Supreme Court of India and also analyze whether Judicial Review promotes accountability or risks judicial overreach in its interpretation of the Constitution and Governance. Also write about the characteristics of the Indian Judicial System and discuss how it is different and unique. **10**

PAPER: MMC 1025 (History of Media and Global Media Scenario)

Answer **any two** from the following questions:

2 x 10 = 20

Q. No. 1. What kinds of challenges does Satellite Television face in the Era of Internet-Based Streaming/Digital Streaming Services and how is it adapting? How have the Digital Streaming Platforms and Mobile Viewing Devices reshaped Television Consumption and Growth in India? What opportunities and challenges do digital platforms create in the areas such as political outreach, misinformation and entrepreneurship? Support your answer with relevant examples.

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Q. No. 2. Write in your own words about the concept of Global Media Systems and the role of International/Global Media Platforms in highlighting news from the Third World/Underdeveloped nations. Also elucidate upon the concepts of Information Rich West and Information Poverty in the Underdeveloped/Third World countries. Cite relevant examples in this context. More so, give an overview of the Historical Dimension of International Information and their Closed Situation in the Socialist Countries.

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Q. No. 3. Elaborate in your own words on the concept of Free Flow of Information and Information Imbalance between the Developed and the Developing/Underdeveloped countries globally with a special focus upon the so called Western Bias in Free Flow of Information to the Developing and the Underdeveloped nations in the world. Cite relevant examples for your answer. Write about the circumstances leading to the MacBride Commission Report. Do you think that the situation has changed for the better now-a-days across the globe and also inside the country?

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Q. No. 4. Give an overview of the newspapers and news magazines of different countries across the world with a special focus upon those operating in India. Elucidate the challenges faced and adaptations made by the print media industries of different countries across the globe in the era of Digital Media Advancements/Digital Age. Also compare and contrast the roles of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and the Cable News Network (CNN) as International Broadcasters. Cite suitable examples for your answer.

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PAPER: MMC 1035 (Perspectives on Communication Theory)

Answer **any two** from the following questions:

2 x 10 = 20

Q. No. 1. Critically evaluate the concept associated with Media Hegemony and explain the related aspects in this context with suitable examples. Also write in your own words about the significance of the Study of Intercultural/Cross-Cultural Communication. Cite relevant examples for your answer. Discuss in your own words, the Magic Bullet/Hypodermic Needle Theory of Communication and its implications upon Audience Behaviour. How does this theory portray the relationship between media and the audiences? Cite some real world examples where this theory has been applied or challenged.

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Q. No. 2. Give an overview of the various applications of the concept of Structuralism in Cultural Studies and Mass Communication. Cite relevant examples for your answer. Explain in your own words the key elements of the *SADHARANIKARAN* Model of Communication (SMC) and the *Bhatta-Mimamsa* Model of Communication. Cite suitable examples for your answer.

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Q. No. 3. How do media systems position audiences both as markets shaped by consumer behaviour and as publics shaped by participation and how are these roles connected to key dimensions of media effects and the overall process of audience formation? Support your answer with suitable examples.

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Q. No. 4. How do different types of content production, gender bias in media industries, commercial demands and various forms of media convergence together influence what kind of media content gets created? Explain with suitable examples.

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PAPER: MMC 1045 (Basics of Journalism - Print Media)

Answer **any two** from the following questions:

2 x 10 = 20

Q. No. 1. Enumerate and elaborate on the various Essentials of Good Reporting in your own words with pertinent examples for your answer. Also discuss in your own words about the various Responsibilities and Liabilities of a news reporter. Cite suitable examples in this context. Also elaborate on the important attributes which are supposed to be there in the language of news report writing for making the news report suitable and easily comprehensible for all sections of readers. Cite relevant examples for your answer. Write about the concept, structure and significance of the Inverted Pyramid Style of news writing with suitable examples. Write an Accident News Report for a newspaper applying the Inverted Pyramid Style of news writing.

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Q. No. 2. “Editing is more than just correcting grammatical errors; it is a multidimensional process that plays a crucial role in ensuring clarity, accuracy and credibility in journalism.” Discuss the given statement in detail by explaining the broader concept of Editing beyond grammar correction. In your response, elaborate on the significance of Editing in Journalism, the different aspects it covers (such as content organization, coherence, objectivity and presentation) and its impact on maintaining ethical and professional standards. Support your answer with relevant examples from the Editing Process in news reporting, investigative journalism and digital media. Also write in your own words about the Stages/Steps and Goals/Objectives of Editing for Print Media with suitable examples.

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Q. No. 3. Discuss in your own words about the two main parts of a Newsroom, i.e. the Editorial Desk and the News Desk and their roles in the News Production Process. Why the Editor is often referred to as the ‘Gatekeeper’ and how does this title reflect the Editor’s responsibilities in the Newsroom? Cite suitable examples for your answer. Write about some of the important tools used in a Newsroom Set Up for editing and designing content. How do these tools help in streamlining the work process and contribute to the overall quality of the publication? Cite relevant examples for your answer. In what ways do different Editorial Team members contribute to the News Production Process ?

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Q. No. 4. Write in your own words about the Types and Structure of Headlines with suitable examples. Elaborate on the different types of Typesetting and the Basics of Typography. Also write in your own words about the concepts of the Supplements and the Special Pages of a Newspaper and a News Magazine. What is the significance of the Supplements and the Special Pages of a Newspaper and a News Magazine in enhancing their popularity? Cite suitable examples for your answer.

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