

SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY
Programme & Subject: M.A (Communication & Media Studies)
Semester: II
Syllabus with Effect from: June – 2010/2011

Paper Code: CMS – 503	Total Credit:
Title Of Paper: Media Law & Ethics	

Unit	Description in detail	Weightage (%)
Media Law		
I	Constitution of India: fundamental rights; freedom of speech and expression and their limits; directive principles of state policy, provisions of declaring emergency and their effects on media; Provisions for amending the constitution; provisions for legislature reporting; parliamentary privileges and media; theory of basic structure; union and states; and election commission and its machinery.	20%
II	Specified press laws: history of press laws in India; Contempt of Courts Act 1971; civil and criminal law of defamation; relevant provisions of Indian Penal Code with reference of sedition, crime against women and children; laws dealing with obscenity; Official Secrets Act, 1923, vis- à-vis Right to information; Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867.	20%
III	Working Journalists and Other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service & Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1955;; Cinematograph Act, 1953; Prasar Bharati Act; WTO agreement and intellectual property right legislations, including Copyright Act, Trade Marks Act and Patent Act ; information technology, convergence legislations including cyber laws and Cable Television Act; and media and public interest litigation.	20%
Ethics		
IV	Media’s ethical problems including privacy, right to reply, communal writing and sensational and yellow journalism; freebies, bias, coloured reports; ethical issues related with ownership of media; role of press and/or media councils and press ombudsmen in the world; Press Council of India and its broad guidelines for the press; codes suggested for the press by Press Council and Press Commissions and other national and international organizations; and codes for radio, television, advertising and public relations.	20%
V	Accountability and independence of media.	20%

