

**MASTER OF ARTS IN DISTANCE
EDUCATION (MADE)**

Term-End Examination

June, 2026

**MDE-411 : GROWTH AND PHILOSOPHY OF
DISTANCE EDUCATION**

Time : 3 Hours

Maximum Weightage : 75%

Note : (i) *Answer all the three questions.*

(ii) *All questions carry equal weightage.*

1. Answer any *one* of the following questions in about **1200** words :

- (a) Discuss the role played by distance education in increasing access and equity in higher education. Justify your answer with examples related to features and practices of distance education that promote social justice.

Or

- (b) Discuss the emergence of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and the challenges faced by Open and Distance Learning (ODL) system in the present digital environment.

2. Answer any *four* of the following questions in about **300** words each :

- (a) Explain the difference between ‘open learning’ and ‘distance learning’.
- (b) Describe any *two* attributes of a good distance teacher.
- (c) Write a note on the importance of staff development in distance education.
- (d) Describe the main indicators for ensuring quality in an online learning programme.

[3]

- (e) Discuss the pedagogic importance of providing tutor comments in an assignment submitted by an ODL learner.
 - (f) Explain the concept of 'dialogue' in distance education. Support your answer with examples.
3. Answer any *one* of the following questions in about **1200** words :
- (a) Describe the unique features of any *two* open universities of the world. Give examples to support your answer.

Or

- (b) Critically analyse the rationale given by Otto Peters for calling distance education as an 'industrialized form of teaching and learning'. Support your answer with examples.

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