

AI CLUB WITH MLH PRESENTS

OPEN SOURCE HACK DAY · HACKTOBERFEST

Build. Contribute. Collaborate.



DATE

Friday, October 16, 2026

TIME

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

VENUE

**MG-505, MG Block, ITM
University, Gwalior**

PARTICIPATION

**Teams · Open to all university
students**

REGISTRATION FEE

Free

FACULTY COORDINATOR

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RULES & REGULATIONS

Latest updates — read with this rulebook

- Timing follows the latest event poster: 16 October 2026, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM. The printed rulebook lists “October 2026 | 9 AM to 5 PM”.
- The rulebook text describes participants working in teams, while its footer reads “Individual Participation”. Confirm team arrangements with the coordinators.

EVENT FORMAT

This event is an in-person Hacktoberfest Hack Day. Participants will work in teams to build an original project using open-source or open-weight AI technology and submit their work through MLH OrganizerHQ Challenges.

CHALLENGE 1 — BEST OPEN-SOURCE AI PROJECT

- Every team must build an original project in which open-source or open-weight AI is an important part of how the project works.
- The project must be published in a public GitHub repository.
- The repository must clearly state an open-source license such as MIT, Apache-2.0, GPL-3.0, or another OSI-approved license.
- Teams must submit their project through OrganizerHQ Challenges before the announced submission deadline.
- Teams should clearly explain the AI technology, model, dependencies, and contribution in their README and demonstration.
- One winning team will be selected for this challenge.
- Every member of the winning team receives a DEV Badge; additional MLH+DEV prize swag may be provided depending on availability and event onboarding.

CHALLENGE 2 — BEST USE OF GEMMA 4

- This is the assigned Hack Days partner prize category for ITM Open Source Hack Day 2026.
- The project must make meaningful use of Gemma 4 through the Gemini API.
- Teams should identify the Gemma model used in their README and demonstrate the integration in their code or live demonstration.
- Gemma should contribute meaningfully to the project's experience or functionality, rather than being included only as a superficial feature.
- The project must be submitted through OrganizerHQ and must satisfy the partner challenge requirements.
- The winning team will receive the prize specified in the event's official MLH onboarding materials. Prize availability may vary by region.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT RULES

- Project-specific work should begin at the time announced by the organizers, following the MLH Standard Hackathon Rules unless the organizers clearly announce a different approach before project work begins.
- Participants may use open-source libraries, APIs, datasets, frameworks, and other permitted development tools.
- Teams are responsible for complying with the licenses and terms of all third-party software, models, APIs, and datasets they use.

- Teams must clearly identify major technologies and AI models used in their project.
- AI coding assistants and other development tools may be used, provided the resulting work is understood and responsibly submitted by the team.

SUBMISSION RULES

- Every project being considered for a prize must be submitted through OrganizerHQ Challenges.
- One team member should submit the project on behalf of the team.
- Submissions must include the project link, project name, description, technologies used, and any available demo URL.
- Teams must select every challenge for which their project is eligible, including Best Open-Source AI Project and Best Use of Gemma 4 where applicable.
- Late submissions will not be considered unless the organizers officially extend the submission deadline for all teams.

JUDGING CRITERIA

- **Technical Implementation:** quality, functionality, and technical depth of the project.
- **Use of AI:** meaningful and effective use of open-source/open-weight AI and, for the Gemma category, meaningful use of Gemma 4.
- **Originality:** creativity, innovation, and thoughtfulness of the solution.
- **Open Source:** public repository, clear licensing, reproducibility, and quality of documentation.
- **Demo & Explanation:** clarity of the demonstration and the team's ability to explain what they built and how it works.
- **Impact & Usefulness:** how effectively the project addresses a real problem or creates a useful experience.

GENERAL RULES

- Participants must register and check in physically at the venue through OrganizerHQ.
- The event is free to attend and is conducted entirely in person.
- Participants must follow the MLH Code of Conduct and all reasonable instructions from event organizers and venue staff.
- Plagiarism, misrepresentation of another person's work, manipulation of submissions, malicious activity, or other unfair means may result in disqualification.

- Teams must respect software, model, dataset, API, and content licenses and terms of use.

TechUtsav 1.0 2026 · ITM University Gwalior

Register: <https://events.mlh.com/events/15429-hacktoberfest-hack-day-gwalior-x-itm-university>

Source: Event Rules & Regulations — ITM Open Source Hack Day 2026 (AI Club, ITM University).