

HISTORY

OPTIONAL 2026

MAY BATCH

By - Sainil Nagare Sir
Senior Faculty - History




12th May'25





1:00 PM


It is said that Optional determines the destiny of UPSC journey. It is the most important weapon to conquer this exam. To get into the final list, one must ace the optionals.


StudyIQ is here with its History Course.
Let's start with understanding the
Merits of History Optional.

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1 It tests the capability of integrating static knowledge with contemporary issues.
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2 Convergence with mains related topics. Ex: Historical background is common theme for introducing answers in GS 1 and GS2
- 

3 History Optional provides ample examples which can be utilised in Essay and case studies of GS 4.
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4 Abundance of Sources from basic books like NCERTs to advanced books
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5 Students opting for History optional can answer questions from Art and culture, Ancient, Medieval and Modern History easily. These in total amount to 25+ questions in Prelims.

Features

Gold

Platinum



400+ hours of live lectures spread over 6 months



Live Doubt Clearing Sessions with Faculty



Recorded Lectures & Hand written Notes and Crux



Comprehensive Coverage of Every Topic with PYQ Discussion



Current affairs to keep the aspirants updated



Regular answer writing sessions with evaluation



One to one Mentorship 24*7



Mains Test Series (Sectional & Full Length Test)



Optional Gyan Bhandar



Weekly Doubt Clearing Sessions with Faculty



Validity

18 Months

30 Months

TIMETABLE

Orientation sessions are conducted at 11 AM initially after the start of the batch, for a few days. This is to make the students adapt to the subject. Candidates will be informed about the same.

DATE

12th to 14th May, 2025

15th May, 2025

TOPICS

Orientation

PAPER 2 SECTION A – MODERN INDIA

- 18th century background + European Penetration into India
- British Expansion in India
- Economic Impact of British Colonial Rule
- Socio – Reform Movements
- Indian Response to British Rule – Peasant and Tribal Uprising in 18th and 19th century
- Revolt OF 1857
- Early Structure of the British Raj (Regulating Act 1773 to CA 1853)
- Misc topics – British Company Raj
- INC Before Gandhi – Pre INC Parties to Home Rule League Movement
- Gandhi Phase 1 – Champaran Satyagraha to Swarajist
- Gandhi Phase 2 – Swarajist to Retirement of Gandhi
- Gandhi Phase 3 – 1939 to 1947
- Constitutional Developments in the Colonial India between 1858 and 1935
- Other strands in the National Movement – The
- Revolutionary Extremism & Leftist Developments in India
- Politics of Separatism: Development of Communalism and Nationalism
- Post Independence

DATE

27th June, 2025

TOPICS

PAPER 2 SECTION B – MODERN WORLD HISTORY

- Enlightenment and Modern ideas
- Origins of Modern Politics : American Revolution and Constitution
- Origins of Modern Politics : American Civil War & British Democratic politics
- Origins of Modern Politics: French Revolution and Aftermath, 1789–1815
- French Revolution and Napoleon– Historiography and debates
- Industrial Revolution
- Nation state system–19th Century revolutions
- Nation state System–Italy
- Nation state System–Germany
- Russian Revolution
- Chinese Revolution
- World War 1
- Fascism, Interwar periods
- World War 2
- EMERGENCE OF POWER BLOCS + THIRD WORLD + NAM +
- COLD WAR + COLLAPSE OF USSR
- EMERGENCE OF POWER BLOCS + THIRD WORLD + NAM +
- COLD WAR + COLLAPSE OF USSR
- UNO AND ITS DISPUTES– Political Changes in East
- Europe 1989–2001 + US ASCENDANCY
- Imperialism and Colonialism + Liberation from
- Colonial rule
- Decolonization and Underdevelopment

DATE

7th August, 2025

17th Sept, 2025

TOPICS

PAPER 1 SECTION A – ANCIENT HISTORY

- Sources
- Pre History – Paleolithic and Mesolithic
- Indus Valley Civilisation
- Vedic Age
- Mahajanpada
- Emergence of Magadha
- Mauryans
- Post Mauryans
- Guptas
- Vakatakas and Vardhanas
- Regional State
- Themes in Early Indian Cultural History

PAPER 1 SECTION B – MEDIEVAL HISTORY

- Early Medieval India, 750-1200
- The Thirteenth Century
- The Fourteenth Century
- 13th and 14th Century – Society, Culture and Economy
- Regional Kingdoms of 15th Century
- 16th Century – Mughals
- 17th Century – Mughals
- 17th Century – Marathas and Ahoms
- 15th to 17th Century – Economy, Society and Culture –
- 15th to 17th Century – Culture
- 18th century

History Test Series

Features

01

The language style and nature of the questions are in line with the questions asked by the Union Public Service Commission and based on deep understanding and knowledge.

02

There will be a total of 12 tests. (8 sectional tests and 4 Full Length tests). Medium of the language used will be English.

03

The evaluation of papers will be done in 4-5 days after the student uploads the paper.

04

Discussion of each paper would be done thoroughly.

05

Synopsis of each test will be provided after the student attempts the paper.

06

Previous Year Questions and high-yielding topics would be covered comprehensively.

Time Table

| TEST NO. | DATE | CHAPTER |
|----------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Test 1 | 6th June, 2025 | Modern History 1 |
| Test 2 | 26th June, 2025 | Modern History 2 |
| Test 3 | 11th July, 2025 | World History 1 |
| Test 4 | 5th Aug, 2025 | World History 2 |
| Test 5 | 25th Aug, 2025 | Ancient History 1 |
| Test 6 | 13th Sept, 2025 | Ancient History 2 |

| TEST NO. | DATE | PAPER |
|----------|-----------------|--|
| Test 7 | 30th Sept, 2025 | Medieval History 1 |
| Test 8 | 15th Oct, 2025 | Medieval History 1 |
| Test 9 | 30th Oct, 2025 | Full Length Paper (Paper I - Ancient & Medieval History) |
| Test 10 | 30th Oct, 2025 | Full Length Paper (Paper II - Modern & World History) |
| Test 11 | 15th Nov, 2025 | Full Length Paper (Paper I - Ancient & Medieval History) |
| Test 12 | 15th Nov, 2025 | Full Length Paper (Paper II - Modern & World History) |

* Please note that the test dates and discussion dates are subjective and may vary.

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