STUDY IQ IAS

HISTORY OPTIONAL

(2027- 2028)

- NOVEMBER BATCH -

Live CLASSES & TEST SERIES



23rd November 2026 1:00 PM

Why Optional Matter in UPSC CSE

Choosing the right optional subject in UPSC CSE Mains can significantly influence your chances of success. It's a highly strategic decision and should be based on multiple factors such as your background, interest, aptitude, availability of resources, and overlap with GS papers. In close merit ranges, the optional often becomes the rank-deciding factor.

Optional Subject

The Hidden Power in UPSC Mains

500 Marks at Stake

Optional contributes **500 out of 1750** marks in the Mains exam. A high score here can **transform your final rank.**

The Real Differentiator

While GS papers level the field, the **optional creates the gap.** Many toppers owe their ranks to an outstanding optional score.

Scoring with Strategy

Optional subjects, with a **well-defined syllabus** and **less competition,** offer a chance to score **much higher than GS papers** — if approached smartly.

Subject Familiarity Pays Off

Choosing an optional aligned with your **interest or academic background** makes preparation smoother and answers stronger.

Overlap = Smart Preparation

Subjects like History, PSIR, Sociology etc. offer content that overlaps with **GS, Essay, and Interview,** giving you **multiple benefits from single preparation.**

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Exploring the Merits of History

Increasing Relevance in UPSC Exam Pattern

Both **Prelims and Mains** now place significant emphasis on historical topics, making History a strategically smart choice.

1

Strong Convergence with GS Papers

2

Historical context is often the **foundation for answers in GS Paper 1 and GS Paper 2,** especially in topics related to polity, society, and governance.

Boosts Essay and Ethics Preparation

History offers a rich pool of **examples, case studies, and philosophical insights,** which are extremely useful for writing compelling essays and answering GS Paper 4 case studies.

3

Plenty of Study Resources Available

4

From **basic NCERTs to advanced reference books,** History is one of the most resource-rich optionals, making preparation well-structured and accessible.

Direct Utility in Prelims

Aspirants with History optional have an advantage in **Art & Culture, Ancient, Medieval, and Modern History,** which together account for **25+ questions in Prelims.**

5

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StudyIQ Offerings

LIVE Classes

The essence of this Program is the Live classes. StudyIQ through our expert faculties will be conducting Live classes every week from Monday to Saturday.

LIVE Doubts Clearing Sessions

LIVE Doubts Clearing Sessions where students can directly ask questions and clarify their doubts with instructors or subject experts. These sessions are a vital part of our Program .

Recorded Classes

Recorded Class after every Live class will be Provided . Learn at your own pace – ideal for working professionals or students with busy schedules .

Hand Written Notes

Before every class, you will be provided with class notes in the form of CRUX. After the classes, we will be providing the lecture / board PPTs and handwritten notes of that class.

Previous Year Questions

Actual questions that appeared in the Optional Exam in previous years will be Provided This will help in Identifying weak Areas.

Model Answers of Mains PYQ's (2013 to 2025)

Model answers to previous year questions from 2013 to 2025 will be provided as part of the course.

Mains Test Series

A 12-test Mains Test Series (8 sectional tests and 4 full-length tests) will be provided to assess your preparation and enhance your performance.

Mains Answer Writing

A weekly Mains answer writing will be conducted throughout the program.

Daily & Weekly Doubt Clearing Sessions

Daily & Weekly Doubts Clearing Sessions where students can directly ask questions and clarify their doubts with instructors or subject experts. These sessions are a vital part of our Program .

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Optional Package Comparison

Features	Elite
500+ 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	✓
Mains Test Series (Sectional & Full Length Test)	✓
Optional Gyan Bhandar	✓
Weekly Doubt Clearing Sessions with Faculty	✓
Validity	30 Months



Time Table

MODERN INDIAN HISTORY

Class	Topics
01	European Penetration into India – Part 1
02	European Penetration into India – Part 2
03	European Penetration into India – Part 3
04	British Expansion in India – Part 1
05	British Expansion in India – Part 2
06	Early Structure of the British Raj – Part 1
07	Early Structure of the British Raj – Part 2
08	Economic Impact of British Colonial Rule – Part 1
09	Economic Impact of British Colonial Rule – Part 2
10	Economic Impact of British Colonial Rule – Part 3
11	Social and Cultural Developments – Part 1
12	Social and Cultural Developments – Part 2
13	Social and Religious Reform Movements – Part 1
14	Social and Religious Reform Movements – Part 2
15	Social and Religious Reform Movements – Part 3
16	Indian Response to British Rule – Part 1
17	Indian Response to British Rule – Part 2
18	Indian Response to British Rule – Part 3
19	Indian Response to British Rule – Part 4
20	Indian National Movement – Part 1
21	Indian National Movement – Part 2
22	Indian National Movement – Part 3
23	Indian National Movement – Part 4
24	Indian National Movement – Part 5
25	Indian National Movement – Part 6
26	Indian National Movement – Part 7
27	Indian National Movement – Part 8
28	Indian National Movement – Part 9
29	Indian National Movement – Part 10
30	Indian National Movement – Part 11
31	Indian National Movement – Part 12
32	Indian National Movement – Part 13
33	Indian National Movement – Part 14
34	Indian National Movement – Part 15
35	Post-Independence Era – Part 1
36	Post-Independence Era – Part 2
37	Post-Independence Era – Part 3
38	Post-Independence Era – Part 4
39	Post-Independence Era – Part 5
40	Post-Independence Era – Part 6

Time Table

ANCIENT INDIAN HISTORY

Class	Topics
01	Orientation
02	Sources – Part 1
03	Sources – Part 2
04	Sources – Part 3
05	Pre-history – Part 1
06	Pre-history – Part 2
07	Indus Valley Civilization – Part 1
08	Indus Valley Civilization – Part 2
09	Indus Valley Civilization – Part 3
10	Megalithic Culture
11	Aryans and Vedic Period – Part 1
12	Aryans and Vedic Period – Part 2
13	Period of Mahajanapadas – Part 1
14	Period of Mahajanapadas – Part 2
15	Period of Mahajanapadas – Part 3
16	Period of Mahajanapadas – Part 4
17	Mauryan Empire – Part 1
18	Mauryan Empire – Part 2
19	Post-Mauryan Period – Part 1
20	Post-Mauryan Period – Part 2
21	Early State and Society in Eastern India, Deccan and South India – Part 1
22	Early State and Society in Eastern India, Deccan and South India – Part 2
23	Early State and Society in Eastern India, Deccan and South India – Part 3
24	Guptas, Vakatakas and Vardhanas – Part 1
25	Guptas, Vakatakas and Vardhanas – Part 2
26	Regional States during Gupta Period – Part 1
27	Regional States during Gupta Period – Part 2
28	Regional States during Gupta Period – Part 3
29	Regional States during Gupta Period – Part 4
30	Themes in Early Indian Cultural History

Time Table

WORLD HISTORY

Class	Topics
01	Enlightenment and Modern Ideas – Part 1
02	Enlightenment and Modern Ideas – Part 2
03	Origin of Modern Politics – Part 1
04	Origin of Modern Politics – Part 2
05	Origin of Modern Politics – Part 3
06	Origin of Modern Politics – Part 4
07	Origin of Modern Politics – Part 5
08	Industrialisation – Part 1
09	Industrialisation – Part 2
10	Nation-State System – Part 1
11	Nation-State System – Part 2
12	Imperialism and Colonialism – Part 1
13	Imperialism and Colonialism – Part 2
14	Revolution and Counter-Revolution – Part 1
15	Revolution and Counter-Revolution – Part 2
16	Revolution and Counter-Revolution – Part 3
17	Revolution and Counter-Revolution – Part 4
18	World Wars – Part 1
19	World Wars – Part 2
20	The World after the Second World War – Part 1
21	The World after the Second World War – Part 2
22	Liberation from Colonial Rule – Part 1
23	Liberation from Colonial Rule – Part 2
24	Decolonisation and Underdevelopment
25	Unification of Europe
26	Disintegration of the Soviet Union and the Rise of the Unipolar World – Part 1
27	Disintegration of the Soviet Union and the Rise of the Unipolar World – Part 2

Time Table

MEDIEVAL INDIAN HISTORY

Class	Topics
01	Akbar – Part 1
02	Akbar – Part 2
03	Jahangir, Shah Jahan and Aurangzeb – Part 1
04	Jahangir, Shah Jahan and Aurangzeb – Part 2
05	The Maratha Kingdom
06	Economy and Society in the Mughal Empire – Part 1
07	Economy and Society in the Mughal Empire – Part 2
08	Culture in the Mughal Empire – Part 1
09	Culture in the Mughal Empire – Part 2
10	Early Medieval India – Part 1
11	Early Medieval India – Part 2
12	Early Medieval India – Part 3
13	Early Medieval India – Part 4
14	Cultural Traditions, 750 AD to 1200 AD – Part 1
15	Cultural Traditions, 750 AD to 1200 AD – Part 2
16	Cultural Traditions, 750 AD to 1200 AD – Part 3
17	Cultural Traditions, 750 AD to 1200 AD – Part 4
18	The 13th Century – Part 1
19	The 13th Century – Part 2
20	The 14th Century – Part 1
21	The 14th Century – Part 2
22	The 14th Century – Part 3
23	Society, Culture and Economy in the Sultanate – Part 1
24	Society, Culture and Economy in the Sultanate – Part 2
25	Society, Culture and Economy in the Sultanate – Part 3
26	The Regional Kingdoms – Part 1
27	The Regional Kingdoms – Part 2
28	The Regional Kingdoms – Part 3
29	Mughal Empire – Part 1
30	The Sur Empire

Our Faculty



Rashid Yasin

Senior Faculty, History Optional

Rashid Yasin graduated in B. A. (Hons.) in History from the Centre for Advanced Studies, Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) Aligarh, and has been a University topper. He has been awarded with the Nurul Hasan Memorial Gold Medal.

A post-graduate from the Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) Delhi, he has been teaching and guiding Civil Services aspirants for more than a decade and is well known for teaching History Optional.

- **Guided more than 10000+ aspirants**
- **Qualified State Services in 2013**

Our Prices

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Elite



Director's Desk

Dear UPSC Aspirants,

At StudyIQ IAS, we know that the journey to becoming a civil servant is not just about studying—it's about dreams, struggles, and relentless perseverance. We have walked this path with thousands of aspirants, learning from your challenges, evolving with your needs, and celebrating your victories. Today, we take that commitment one step further with our most comprehensive and inclusive program yet—The FOUNDATION Batch.

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Best Regards,
Director's Desk

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