HISTORY OPTIONAL

(2027- 2028)

FEBRUARY BATCH

Live **CLASSES & TEST SERIES**

20th February 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.

▶ **One to One Mentorship**

During your entire journey, our mentors will track your progress and guide you through your academic journey. Your Mentor will act like a friend, philosopher and guide so that you can have a personalized help during the preparation journey.

▶ **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	Gold	Platinum
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	✗	✓
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	24 Months

Time Table

Date	Sub-Topics
20th February 2026	**Orientation**
28th February 2026	**Modern India** • 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
18th April 2026	**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

Time Table

Date	Sub-Topics
30th May 2026	**Ancient Indiat** • 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
20th July 2026	**Medieval History** • Early Medieval India, 750-1200 • The Thirteenth Century • The Fourteenth Century • 13th and 14th Century - Society, Culture and Economy • Regional Kingdomes 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
25th August 2026	**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

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Test Series

Date (Tentative)	Test	Topic
Modern India		
26th March 2026	Test 1	Modern India Sectional
17th April 2026	Test 2	Modern India Sectional
World History		
9th May 2026	Test 3	World History Sectional
29th May 2026	Test 4	World History Sectional
Ancient India		
19th June 2026	Test 5	Ancient India Sectional
18th July 2026	Test 6	Ancient India Sectional
Medieval India		
8th August 2026	Test 7	Medieval India Sectional
23rd August 2026	Test 8	Medieval India Sectional
Full-Length Tests		
3rd September 2026	Test 9	Full-Length Test 1
3rd September 2026	Test 10	Full-Length Test 2
18th September 2026	Test 11	Full-Length Test 3
18th September 2026	Test 12	Full-Length Test 4

Note: Test series dates are tentative and may be revised as per the Schedule.

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Our Faculty

Sainil Nagare

Senior Faculty, History Optional

- Brings over 9 years of teaching experience in UPSC preparation

- Consistently successful in UPSC CSE and CAPF interviews, offering real exam insight

- Achieved an impressive 303 marks in History Optional in UPSC Mains 2018

- Has mentored several UPSC toppers, known for his result-oriented guidance and conceptual clarity

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Our Prices

Price: ~~₹24,999~~

₹15,999

GOLD

Price: ~~₹38,999~~

₹20,999

Platinum

Book

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.

This is not just another course; it's a game-changer. Whether you are starting fresh or refining your strategy, FOUNDATION provides everything you need—from live & recorded lectures, handwritten notes, structured test series, daily quizzes, answer writing practice, interview guidance, and one-on-one mentorship—all in a single, well-structured program. We believe financial constraints should never hold back a dream, which is why we offer affordable pricing, a full fee refund for those who clear Prelims, and ₹11,000 rewards for top performers.

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Best Regards,
Director's Desk

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