



# **PSIR OPTIONAL ANSWER WRITING PROGRAM**

**(2025- 2026)**



**27th June 2025**

# 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. Below is a detailed evaluation of each of the subjects you mentioned — both English and Hindi medium options — to help you make an informed choice:

## 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 PSIR, Sociology, and Anthropology offer content that overlaps with **GS, Essay, and Interview**, giving you **multiple benefits** from single preparation.



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# Exploring the Merits of PSIR

## Strong GS & Essay Integration

PSIR offers significant overlap with multiple General Studies papers:

**GS Paper I** – Indian freedom struggle, social reforms

**GS Paper II** – Constitution, polity, governance, social justice, international relations

**GS Paper III** – Internal security & strategic affairs

**GS Paper IV** – Philosophical foundations & moral thinkers

**Essay Paper** – Political and international themes are frequently asked

1



## Advantage in the Interview (Personality Test)

2



Questions related to current international relations, diplomacy, political thought, and India's foreign policy often feature in interviews — where PSIR background offers a clear edge.

## High Success Rate and Popularity

PSIR consistently features among the top-performing optionals, with many toppers choosing it year after year due to its balanced syllabus, scoring potential, and analytical depth.

3



## Dynamic Application of Concepts

4



The subject tests your ability to combine static theoretical knowledge with contemporary issues — an essential skill for civil servants handling real-world governance and diplomacy.

# StudyIQ Offerings

- ▶ **Live Classes: Every Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 4 PM**
- ▶ **Mini test: Conducted after each class**  
**Detailed evaluation/feedback on each answer will be provided**
- ▶ **Live Answer Writing Sessions with Shashank Sir**
- ▶ **Live Answer Discussions led by Shashank Sir**
- ▶ **Topper Answer Copy Analysis (UPSC PSIR) by Shashank Sir**
- ▶ **Personalized Mentorship Sessions with Shashank Sir**



# Time Table

Date

Topic

26 June 2025

Orientation

## Paper 1 Part A: Indian Government & Politics

27 June 2025

Concept of Power

30 June 2025

Political ideologies

02 July 2025

Political Theory

## Paper 1 Part B: Indian Government & Politics

04 July 2025

Indian Nationalism and Salient features  
of Indian Constitution

07 July 2025

Principal Organs of Government

09 July 2025

Grassroot democracy and Statutory institutions

11 July 2025

Federalism & Planning

14 July 2025

Caste, ethnicity and religion in Indian Politics

16 July 2025

Party System & Social Movements

## Paper 2: Comparative Politics & International Relations

18 July 2025

Comparative Politics

21 July 2025

Globalisation

23 July 2025

Theories of IR

25 July 2025

Theories of IR

28 July 2025

Key Concepts in International Relations

30 July 2025

Changing International Political Order

1 Aug 2025

Indian Foreign Policy, NAM



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# Our Faculty



**Shashank Tyagi**

**Polity & PSIR Faculty | UPSC Mentor**

► **Mentor to 20,000+ UPSC Aspirants**

With a proven track record in both online and offline teaching, Shashank Tyagi has successfully guided thousands of aspirants on their UPSC journey.

► **Recognized by the Government of NCT of Delhi**

Awarded for his exceptional contributions to education and consistent academic excellence.

► **Expert in PSIR & Indian Polity**

Specializes in Political Science & International Relations (PSIR) Optional and General Studies Polity, known for delivering exam-focused content with depth and clarity.

► **Trusted Authority on Polity & Governance**

Celebrated for his ability to simplify complex constitutional and governance topics, helping students build a strong conceptual foundation essential for Mains and Prelims.

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# Our Prices

Price: ~~₹18,999~~

₹8,999



# 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.

More than just a batch, FOUNDATION is a promise—a promise that no matter where you are in your UPSC journey, you will never feel alone. You will have the best resources, unwavering mentorship, and a community that supports you at every step. This is your time, your moment—to rise, to conquer, and to turn your dream into reality.

Join the FOUNDATION Batch today and take the first step towards your IAS dream with confidence!

Best Regards,  
Director's Desk

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# Time Table

Date	Topic
04 Aug 2025	India & Major Powers (USA, Russia, China, EU)
06 Aug 2025	India & Neighbors (SAARC, Indo-Pak, Indo-Bangladesh, Indo-Nepal, Indo-Sri Lanka)
08 Aug 2025	India & Multilateralism (UN, WTO, IMF, World Bank, WHO, G20,, BRICS)
11 Aug 2025	Contemporary Global Concerns (Climate Change, Terrorism, Cyber Security, AI & Geopolitics)
13 Aug 2025	Nuclear Politics & Arms Control (NPT, CTBT, India's Nuclear Doctrine)
18 Aug 2025	Evolution of the International Economic System

## Paper 1 Part A: Political Theory

20 Aug 2025	Western Political Thought
22 Aug 2025	Western Political Thought
25 Aug 2025	Western Political Thought
27 Aug 2025	Indian Political Thought
29 Aug 2025	Theory of state
01 Sep 2025	Theory of Justice and equality
03 Sep 2025	Theory of Rights
05 Sep 2025	Democracy