



• **UPSC IAS (Mains)** •

PSIR

+ **Optional** -

July Batch 2024

 **Live** **Classes & Test Series**



By **Shashank Tyagi**



17th July'23



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 PSIR optional Course. Let's start with understanding the **Merits of PSIR Optional.**

1

It tests the capability of integrating static knowledge with contemporary issues.

2

Overlap with PSIR Optional : GS 3 – Security, Environment | GS 1 – Freedom Struggle, Social Issues | GS 4 – Moral Thinkers and Philosophical part | Essay – Topics on Political and International issues are often asked | GS 2 – Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International Relations.

3

It is also to be noted that certain questions with regards to International Relations are also asked in the UPSC– Civil Services Interview.

4

Abundance of Sources from basic books like NCERTs to advanced books.

5

One of the highest selections and rewarding optional subject year on year.

Features of the Course



**400+ hours of
live lectures
spread over 5
months**



**Comprehensive
coverage through
high quality
lecture notes**



**Hand written notes
and crux will be
provided in English.**



**Live answer writing
program under the
guidance of faculty**



**Previous Year
Questions
discussions**



**PSIR Current
affairs to keep the
aspirant updated**



**Doubt clearing
sessions by the
faculty**

TIMETABLE

Tentative Schedule

Topic Name

17th Jul - 20th Jul

ORIENTATION CLASS

Orientation Class will be from 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Optional Live Class will be from 1:00 PM - 4:00PM

Paper 2 Part A: Comparative Political Analysis And International Politics

Tentative Schedule

Topic Name

21st July'23 -
24th July'23

Comparative Politics: Nature and major approaches; political economy & political sociology perspectives; limitations of the comparative method.

24th July'23 -
25th July'23

State in comparative perspective: Characteristics and changing nature of the State in capitalist and socialist economies, and, advanced industrial and developing societies.

26th July'23 -
27th July'23

Politics of Representation & Participation: Political parties, pressure groups & social movements in advanced industrial & developing societies.

28th July'23 -
31st July'23

Globalisation: Responses from developed and developing societies.

1st August'23 -
4th August'23

Approaches to the Study of International Relations: Idealist, Realist, Marxist, Functionalist and Systems theory.

7th August'23 -
10th August'23

Key concepts in International Relations: National interest, Security and power; Balance of power & deterrence; Transnational actors & collective security; World capitalist economy & globalisation.

Tentative Schedule

Topic Name

**11th August'23 -
14th August'23**

Changing International Political Order:
(a) Rise of super powers; strategic and ideological Bipolarity, arms race and Cold War; nuclear threat;
(b) Non-aligned movement : Aims and achievements;
(c) Collapse of the Soviet Union; Unipolarity and American hegemony; relevance of non-alignment in the contemporary world.

**16th August'23 -
18th August'23**

Evolution of the International Economic System: From Brettonwoods to WTO; Socialist economies and the CMEA (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance); Third World demand for new international economic order; Globalisation of the world economy.

**21st August'23 -
22nd August'23**

United Nations: Envisaged role and actual record; specialized UN agencies-aims and functioning; need for UN reforms.

**23rd August'23 -
25th August'23**

Regionalisation of World Politics: EU, ASEAN, APEC, SAARC, NAFTA.

**28th August'23 -
5th September'23**

Contemporary Global Concerns: Democracy, human rights, environment, gender justice, terrorism, nuclear proliferation.

Paper 2 Part B: India and The World

Tentative Schedule

Topic Name

**8th September -
11th September**

Indian Foreign Policy: Determinants of foreign policy; institutions of policy-making; continuity and change.

**12th September -
13th September**

India's Contribution to the Non-Alignment Movement: Different phases; current role.

Tentative Schedule

Topic Name

**14th Sep'23 -
21st Sep'23**

India and South Asia:
a) Regional Co-operation: SAARC-past performance and future prospects.
b) South Asia as a Free Trade Area.
c) India's "Look East" policy.
d) Impediments to regional co-operation: river water disputes; illegal cross-border migration; ethnic conflicts & insurgencies; border disputes.

**22nd Sep'23 -
25th Sep'23**

India and the Global South: Relations with Africa and Latin America; leadership role in the demand for NIEO & WTO negotiations.

**26th Sep'23 -
4th October'23**

India and the Global Centres of Power: USA, EU, Japan, China and Russia.

5th October'23

India and the UN System: Role in UN Peace-keeping; demand for Permanent Seat in the Security Council.

6th October'23

India and the Nuclear Question: Changing perceptions and policy.

**9th October'23 -
13th October'23**

Recent developments in Indian Foreign policy: India's position on the recent crisis in Afghanistan, Iraq and West Asia, growing relations with US and Israel; vision of a new world order.



Paper 1 Part A : Political Theory

Tentative Schedule

Topic Name

16th Oct'23 -
31st Oct'23

Western Political Thought: Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, John S. Mill, Marx, Gramsci, Hannah Arendt

1st Nov'23 -
3rd Nov'23

Theories of the state: Liberal, Neo-liberal, Marxist, Pluralist, Post-colonial and feminist.

6th Nov'23 -
7th Nov'23

Justice: Conceptions of justice with special reference to Rawl's theory of justice and its communitarian critiques.

8th Nov'23 -
9th Nov'23

Equality: Social, political and economic; relationship between equality and freedom; Affirmative action.

10th Nov'23 -
13th Nov'23

Rights: Meaning and theories; different kinds of rights; concept of Human Rights.

14th Nov'23 -
16th Nov'23

Democracy: Classical & contemporary theories; different models of democracy-representative, participatory and deliberative.

17th Nov'23 -
20th Nov'23

Concept of power: hegemony, ideology and legitimacy.

21st Nov'23 -
29th Nov'23

Political Ideologies: Liberalism, Socialism, Marxism, Fascism, Gandhism and Feminism.

30th Nov'23 -
5th Dec'23

Indian Political Thought: Dharamshastra, Arthashastra and Buddhist traditions; Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Sri Aurobindo, M.K. Gandhi, B.R. Ambedkar, M.N. Roy.

6th Dec'23

Political theory: meaning and approaches.

Paper 1 Part B: Indian Government and Politics

Tentative Schedule

Topic Name

11th Dec'23-
13th Dec'23

Indian Nationalism:

(a) Political Strategies of India's Freedom struggle : constitutionalism to mass Satyagraha, Non-cooperation, Civil Disobedience ; militant and revolutionary movements, Peasant and workers' movements.

(b) Perspectives on Indian National Movement: Liberal, Socialist and Marxist; Radical humanist and Dalit.

14th Dec'23-
15th Dec'23

Making of the Indian Constitution: Legacies of the British rule; different social and political perspectives.

18th Dec'23-
22nd Dec'23

Salient Features of the Indian Constitution: The Preamble, Fundamental Rights and Duties, Directive Principles; Parliamentary System and Amendment Procedures; Judicial Review and Basic Structure doctrine.

26th Dec'23-
29th Dec'23

a. Principal Organs of the Union Government: Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature and Supreme Court.

b. Principal Organs of the State Government: Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature and High Courts.

2nd Jan'24-
3rd Jan'24

Grassroots Democracy: Panchayati Raj and Municipal Government; significance of 73rd and 74th Amendments; Grassroot movements.

4th Jan'24-
5th Jan'24

Statutory Institutions/Commissions: Election Commission, Comptroller and Auditor General, Finance Commission, Union Public Service Commission, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, National Commission for scheduled Tribes, National Commission for Women; National Human Rights Commission, National Commission for Minorities, National Backward Classes Commission.

8th Jan'24-
11th Jan'24

Federalism: Constitutional provisions; changing nature of centre-state relations; integrationist tendencies and regional aspirations; inter-state disputes.

Tentative Schedule

Topic Name

12th Jan'24-
15th Jan'24

Planning and Economic Development : Nehruvian and Gandhian perspectives; role of planning and public sector; Green Revolution, land reforms and agrarian relations; liberalization and economic reforms.

16th Jan'24-
18th Jan'24

Caste, Religion and Ethnicity in Indian Politics.

19th Jan'24-
22nd Jan'24

Party System: National and regional political parties, ideological and social bases of parties; patterns of coalition politics; Pressure groups, trends in electoral behaviour; changing socio- economic profile of Legislators.

23 Jan'24

Social Movements: Civil liberties and human rights movements; women's movements; environmentalist movements



PSIR Test Series

Features of Test Series



- 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.

There will be total 12 tests
(8 sectional tests and 4 Full-Length Tests)



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

- Discussion of each paper would be done thoroughly.



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

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



TIMETABLE

Test No.	Test Date	Test Name
Test 1	12TH AUGUST, 2023	PAPER 2 SECTION A Topic 1-5
Test 2	9TH SEPTEMBER, 2023	PAPER 2 SECTION A Topic 6-11
Test 3	7TH OCTOBER, 2023	PAPER 2 SECTION B Topic 1-4
Test 4	21ST OCTOBER, 2023	PAPER 2 SECTION B Topic 5-8
Test 5	11TH NOVEMBER 2023	PAPER 1 SECTION A Topic 2,3,4 and 10(WPT)
Test 6	9TH DECEMBER 2023	PAPER 1 SECTION A Topic 5-9 AND TOPIC-1
Test 7	6TH JANUARY 2024	PAPER 1 SECTION B Topic 1-5
Test 8	27TH JUANUARY 2024	PAPER 1 SECTION B Topic 6-11
Test 9	10TH FEBURARY 2024	Comprehensive Test Paper 1
Test 10	17TH FEBURARY 2024	Comprehensive Test Paper 2
Test 11	2ND MARCH 2024	Comprehensive Test Paper 1
Test 12	9TH MARCH 2024	Comprehensive Test Paper 2

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₹16,999

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