



PHILOSOPHY

OPTIONAL

— SMART —
COURSE

▶ REC Recorded Classes



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 Philosophy

HIGHEST AVERAGE SUCCESS RATE – 7.9%

Consistently ranks among the top scoring optionals in UPSC.



HIGH SCORING POTENTIAL



Candidates can easily score 300+; Top score: 327/500.

TRACK RECORD OF SUCCESS

Chosen by top rankers like Athar Aamir Khan (AIR-2, 2015) and Ankita Jain (AIR-3, 2020).



SHORTEST SYLLABUS



Saves time for revision and GS preparation; no current affairs section – purely static content.

HIGHLY LOGICAL SUBJECT

Strengthens analytical and critical thinking skills.



OOSTS GS-IV (ETHICS) & ESSAY PREPARATION



Overlaps significantly with Ethics, Integrity, Aptitude, and Essay writing.

COVERS RELEVANT SOCIO-POLITICAL THEMES

Engages with important topics like democracy, justice, equality, and more.



ENHANCES WRITING & INTERVIEW SKILLS



Improves articulation, depth of thought, and helps in building a mature perspective – valuable for interview stage.

NO PRIOR BACKGROUND NEEDED

Designed for general understanding – philosophy background not required.



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Recorded Lectures

Topic no	Topic
1.	Western Philosophy
2.	Socio political philosophy
3.	Philosophy of Religion
4.	Indian Philosophy

Our Faculty



Shailendra Upadhyay

Philosophy Faculty | UPSC Mentor

- ▶ UPSC Interview – 2023
- ▶ UPPSC & MPPSC Interviews – 2018, 2019
- ▶ 3-time UPSC Mains Qualifier – 2013, 2017, 2022
- ▶ UPPSC Mains Cleared – 2018, 2022
- ▶ MPPSC Mains Cleared – 2018, 2019, 2024
- ▶ Also Qualified – HSC Mains (2022), MPPSC Forest Mains (2018, 2019, 2020)

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Our Prices

Price: ~~₹25,999~~

₹11,999

GOLD



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.

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Best Regards,
Director's Desk

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