

UPSC IAS (Mains)

SOCIOLOGY

Optional 2024

November Batch

LIVE

Classes & Test Series



By **Divakar Bothra**



21st Nov'23



1:00 PM

Study Iq is introducing a comprehensive Sociology Optional Course cum Test Series Programme. The objective of this course is to help students understand the subject matter more conceptually as well as to impart answer writing skills to the students.

Sociology Optional Batch 2024

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.

Let's start with understanding the Merits of Sociology optional.

01

Sociology is one of the most sought after optional subject with more than 20+ toppers within top 50 in last 5 years.

Easy to score well- Sociology optional can fetch average of 270 marks even 310-320 in many cases.

02

03

Wide application of concepts in Essay paper, GS-1 Society, GS-2,3 and Ethics paper.

**Can be easily
prepared in 4-5 months of
regular study.**

04

05

**The questions asked in exam
are mostly direct without too
much element of surprise.**

**No prior background of the
subject is required making it
ideal for any aspirant**

06

07

**Comprehensive course coverage
with special focus in Current
affairs and it's application in the
paper based on the
current trend.**

**Taught by an expert faculty
having 10+ years of
experience.**

08

Features of the Course

1



600+ hours of live lectures
spread over 5 months

2



Comprehensive coverage
on each and every topic

3



Answer Writing Sessions to
inculcate the art of answer
writing

4



Previous Year Questions
discussions

5



Doubt-clearing sessions by
the faculty

6



Provision of High-quality Crux
and Hand-written notes

Orientation sessions are conducted at 11 AM initially after the start of the batch, for a few days. This is to make the students adapt to the subject. Candidates will be informed about the same.

Crux material and Hand written notes will be provided in English only.



STUDY PLAN

DATE	PAPER	CHAPTER	SUB TOPICS
21st Nov'23	PAPER - 1	Sociology as Science	. Science, scientific method and critique . Major theoretical strands of research methodology . Positivism and its critique . Fact value and objectivity . Non- positivist methodologies
29th Nov'23	PAPER - 1	Research Methods and Analysis	. Qualitative and quantitative methods . Techniques of data collection . Variables, Sampling, Hypothesis, Reliability and Validity
6th Dec'23	PAPER - 1	Sociological Thinkers	. Karl Marx – Historical materialism, MOP, Class and class conflict, Alienation . Emile Durkheim – DOL, Social fact , Suicide, Religion . Max Weber – Social action, Ideal types, Authority, Bureaucracy , PE&SC . Talcott Parsons – Social system, Pattern variables . Robert Merton – Latent & Manifest, Conformity and Deviance, Reference Group . Mead – Self and Identity
8th Jan'24	PAPER - 1	Stratification and Mobility	. Concepts – Equality, Inequality, Hierarchy, Exclusion, Poverty and Deprivation . Theories of Stratification – Structural functionalist theory, Marxist theory, Weberian theory . Dimension – Social stratification of class, Status groups, Gender, Ethnicity and Race . Social Mobility – Open and Closed system, Types of social mobility, Sources and causes of mobility

DATE	PAPER	CHAPTER	SUB TOPICS
20th Jan'24	PAPER - 1	Work and Economic Life	. Social organization of work in different types of society- slave society, feudal society, industrial /capitalist society. . Formal and informal organization of work. .Labour and society
29th Jan'24	PAPER - 1	Politics and Society	. Sociological theories of Power. . Power elite, bureaucracy, pressure groups, and political parties. - Nation, state, citizenship, democracy, civil society, ideology. . Protest, agitation, social movements, collective action, revolution.
5th Feb'24	PAPER - 1	Religion and Society	. Sociological theories of Religion. . Types of religious practices: animism, monism, pluralism, sects, cults. . Religion in modern society: religion and science, secularization, religious revivalism, fundamentalism.
14th Feb'24	PAPER - 1	System of Kinship	. Family, Household, Marriage. . Types and forms of family. . Lineage and descent . . Patriarchy and sexual division of labour. . Contemporary trends.
23rd Feb'24	PAPER - 1	Social change in Modern society	. Sociological theories of social change. . Development and dependency. . Agents of social change. . Education and social change. . Science, technology and social change.
27th Feb'24	PAPER - 2	Perspectives on the study of Indian society:	. Indology (Ghurye) . Structural Functionalism (Srinivas) . Marxist Sociology (Desai)
28th Feb'24	PAPER - 2	Impact of Colonial Rule	. Social background of Indian nationalism . Modernisation of Indian tradition . Protestant movements during colonial period . Social reforms
1st Mar'24	PAPER - 2	Village	. The idea of Indian Village . Evolution of Land tenure system, Land reforms

DATE	PAPER	CHAPTER	SUB TOPICS
2nd Mar'24	PAPER – 2	Caste System	. Perspectives on the study of caste systems: GS Ghurye, M N Srinivas, Louis Dumont, Andre Beteille. . Features of caste system. . Untouchability – forms and perspectives.
4th Mar'24	PAPER – 2	Tribe	. Definitional Problems . Geographical Spread . Colonial policies and tribes . Issues of integration and autonomy
6th Mar'24	PAPER – 2	Social classes in India	. Agrarian class structure . Industrial class structure . Middle class structure
7th Mar'24	PAPER – 2	System of Kinship in India	. Lineage and Descent . Types of kinship systems. . Family and marriage in India. . Household dimensions of the family. . Patriarchy, entitlements and sexual division of labour
Covered with Paper 1	PAPER – 2	Religion and Society	. Religious communities in India . Problems of religious minorities
Covered with Paper 1	PAPER – 2	Social Change in India	. Idea of development planning and mixed economy. . Constitution, law and social change. . Education and social change.
12th Mar'24	PAPER – 2	Rural and Agrarian Transformation in India	. Programmes of rural development, Community Development Programme, cooperatives, poverty alleviation schemes. . Green revolution and social change. . Changing modes of production in Indian agriculture . . Problems of rural labour, bondage, migration
15th Mar'24	PAPER – 2	Industrialisation and Urbanisation in India	. Evolution of modern industry in India. . Growth of urban settlements in India. . Working class: structure, growth, class mobilization. . Informal sector, child labour. . Slums and deprivation in urban areas.
18th Mar'24	PAPER – 2	Politics and Society	. Nation, democracy and citizenship. . Political parties, pressure groups , social and political elite. . Regionalism and decentralization of power. . Secularization

DATE	PAPER	CHAPTER	SUB TOPICS
21st Mar'24	PAPER - 2	Social Movements in India	. Peasants and farmers movements. . Women's movement. . Backward classes & Dalit movement. . Environmental movements. . Ethnicity and Identity movements.
25th Mar'24	PAPER - 2	Population Dynamics	. Population size, growth, composition and distribution. . Components of population growth: birth, death, migration. . Population policy and family planning. . Emerging issues: ageing, sex ratios, child and infant mortality, reproductive health.
28th Mar'24	PAPER - 2	Challenges of Social Transformations	.Crisis of development: displacement, environmental problems and sustainability. . Poverty, deprivation and inequalities. . Violence against women. . Caste conflicts. . Ethnic conflicts, communalism, religious revivalism. . Illiteracy and disparities in education.
15th Apr' 24	PAPER - 1	Sociology - The Discipline	. Modernity and Social change in Europe . Scope of the subject and comparison . Sociology and common sense

* Please note that this is a tentative schedule of the batch and the dates may vary.

Sociology Test Series

Features of the 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 a total of 12 tests. 10 Sectional tests (5 tests from Paper 1 and 5 tests from Paper 2) and 2 full-length papers. Medium of the language used will be English.
- 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.

TIME TABLE

TEST DATE	TEST NO.	TOPICS
7th Jan'24	Sectional Test 2	. Sociological Thinkers
28th Jan'24	Sectional Test 3	. Stratification and Mobility . Work and Economic Life
13th Feb'24	Sectional Test 4	. Politics and Society . Religion and Society
25th Feb'24	Sectional Test 5	. System of Kinship in India . Religion and Society . Social Change in India
3rd Mar'24	Sectional Test 6	. Perspectives on the study of Indian society . Impact of Colonial Rule . Village
10th Mar'24	Sectional Test 7	. Caste System . Tribe . Social Classes in India.
17th Mar'24	Sectional Test 8	. System of Kinship in India . Religion and Society . Social Change in India
24th Mar'24	Sectional Test 9	. Rural and Agrarian Transformation in India . Industrialisation and Urbanisation in India . Politics and Society
31st Mar'24	Sectional Test 10	. Social Movements in India . Population Dynamics . Challenges of Social Transformations
7th Apr'24	Sectional Test 1	. Sociology - The Discipline . Sociology as Science . Research Methods and Analysis

TEST DATE	TEST NO.	TOPICS
Full Length Tests Will be conducted after Prelims		
16th June'24	Full Length Paper 1	Entire Paper 1
30th June'24	Full Length Paper 2	Entire Paper 2

*** Please note that the test dates and discussion dates are subjective and may vary.**

Price: ₹28,000

₹16,999



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contact@studyiq.com

