

**UPSC IAS (MAINS)** 

# SOCIOLOGY Optional 2025

**April Batch** 

**Classes & Test Series** 







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.

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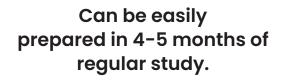
Sociology is one of the most sought after optional subject with more than 20+ toppers within top 50 in last 5 years.

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





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







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





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.



#### **Features of the Course**



the faculty

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
30th Apr'24			Orientation
lst May'24	PAPER - 2	Perspectives on the study of Indian society:	. Indology ( Ghurye ) . Structural Functionalism ( Srinivas ) . Marist Sociology ( Desai )
16th May'24	PAPER - 2	Impact of Colonial Rule	. Social background of Indian nationalism . Modernisation of Indian tradition . Protestand movements during colonialperiod . Social reforms
18th May'24	PAPER - 2	Village	. The idea of Indian Village . Evolution of Land tenure system, Land reforms
20 May'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.
1st Jun'24	PAPER - 2	Tribe	. Definitional Problems . Geographical Spread . Colonial policies and tribes . Issues of integration and autonomy
3rd Jun'24	PAPER - 2	Social classes in India	. Agrarian class structure . Industrial class structure . Middle class structure
4th Jun'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

DATE	PAPER	CHAPTER	SUB TOPICS
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.
9th Jun'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
12th Jun'24	PAPER - 2	Industrialisation and Urbanisation in India	<ul> <li>. Evolution of modern industry in India.</li> <li>. Growth of urban settlements in India.</li> <li>. Working class: structure, growth, class mobilization.</li> <li>. Informal sector, child labour.</li> <li>. Slums and deprivation in urban areas.</li> </ul>
16th Jun'24	PAPER - 2	Politics and Society	<ul> <li>. Nation, democracy and citizenship.</li> <li>. Political parties, pressure groups , social and political elite.</li> <li>. Regionalism and decentralization of power.</li> <li>. Secularization</li> </ul>
19 Jun'24	PAPER - 2	Social Movements in India	<ul> <li>. Peasants and farmers movements.</li> <li>. Women's movement.</li> <li>. Backward classes &amp; Dalit movement.</li> <li>. Environmental movements.</li> <li>. Ethnicity and Identity movements.</li> </ul>
23 Jun'24	PAPER - 2	Population Dynamics	<ul> <li>. Population size, growth, composition and distribution.</li> <li>. Components of population growth: birth, death, migration.</li> <li>. Population policy and family planning.</li> <li>. Emerging issues: ageing, sex ratios, child and infant mortality, reproductive health.</li> </ul>

DATE	PAPER	CHAPTER	SUB TOPICS
28th Jun'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 Jul'24	PAPER - 1	Sociology - The Discipline	. Modernity and Social change in Europe . Scope of the subject and comparison . Sociology and common sense
25th Jul'24	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
3rd Aug24	PAPER - 1	Research Methods and Analysis	. Qualitative and quantitative methods . Techniques of data collection . Variables, Sampling, Hypothesis, Reliability and Validity
10th Aug24	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 . Talcolt Parsons - Social syatem, Pattern variables . Robert Merton - Latent & Manifest, Conformity and Deviance, Reference Group . Mead - Self and Identity

DATE	PAPER	CHAPTER	SUB TOPICS
25th Aug24	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
5th Sep'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 workLabour and society
16th Sep'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.
28th Sep'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.
10th Oct'24	PAPER - 1	System of Kinship	<ul> <li>Family, Household, Marriage.</li> <li>Types and forms of family.</li> <li>Lineage and descent .</li> <li>Patriarchy and sexual division of labour.</li> <li>Contemporary trends.</li> </ul>
18th Oct′24	PAPER - 1	Social change in Modern society	<ul> <li>. Sociological theories of social change.</li> <li>. Development and dependency.</li> <li>. Agents of social change.</li> <li>. Education and social change.</li> <li>. Science, technology and social change.</li> </ul>

<sup>\*</sup> Please note that this is a tentative schedule of the batch and the dates may vary.

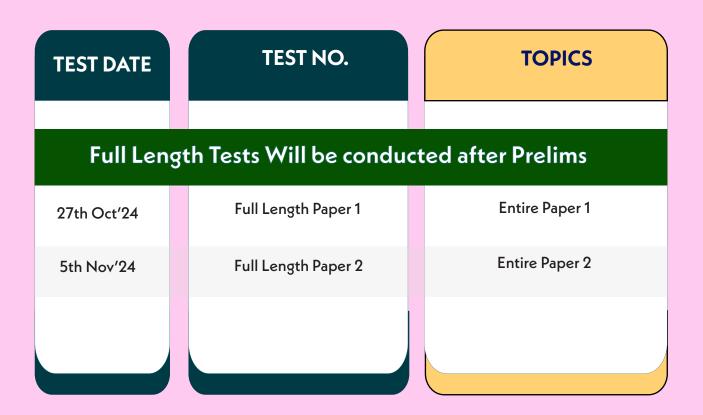
## **Sociology Test Series**

#### **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.

## TIMETABLE

TEST DATE	TEST NO.	TOPICS
21st May'24	Sectional Test 1	. Perspectives on the study of Indian society . Impact of Colonial Rule . Village
5th Jun'24	Sectional Test 2	. Caste System . Tribe . Social Classes in India.
11th Jun'24	Sectional Test 3	. System of Kinship in India . Religion and Society . Social Change in India
20th Jun'24	Sectional Test 4	<ul> <li>Rural and Agrarian Transformation in India</li> <li>Industrialisation and Urbanisation in India</li> <li>Politics and Society</li> </ul>
16th Jul'24	Sectional Test 5	<ul><li>. Social Movements in India</li><li>. Population Dynamics</li><li>. Challenges of Social Transformations</li></ul>
11th Aug′24	Sectional Test 6	. Sociology - The Discipline . Sociology as Science . Research Methods and Analysis
26th Aug'24	Sectional Test 7	. Sociological Thinkers
17th Aug'24	Sectional Test 8	. Stratification and Mobility . Work and Economic Life
27th Sep'24	Sectional Test 9	. Politics and Society . Religion and Society
20th Oct'24	Sectional Test 10	. System of Kinship in India . Religion and Society . Social Change in India



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



