



SOCIOLOGY

OPTIONAL

(2026- 2027)

SEPTEMBER BATCH



Live

CLASSES & TEST SERIES



30th September



12:00 PM

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 Sociology

High Success Rate

One of the most popular optionals with **20+ toppers in the top 50** over the last 5 years.



Scoring Potential



Consistently delivers good results — average scores around **270**, with many aspirants scoring **310–320**.

Extensive GS & Essay Overlap

Concepts are highly useful in **Essay, GS Paper 1 (Society)**, and also enrich **GS Paper 2, 3, and Ethics** answers.



Beginner-Friendly



Requires **no academic background** and can be **completed in 4–5 months** of focused study — ideal for any serious aspirant.

Predictable and Straightforward

Exam questions are generally **direct and less tricky**, making preparation more streamlined.



StudyIQ Offerings



LIVE Classes

The essence of this Program is the Live classes. StudyIQ through our expert faculties will be conducting Live classes every week from Monday to Saturday.



LIVE Doubts Clearing Sessions

LIVE Doubts Clearing Sessions where students can directly ask questions and clarify their doubts with instructors or subject experts. These sessions are a vital part of our Program .



Recorded Classes

Recorded Class after every Live class will be Provided . Learn at your own pace – ideal for working professionals or students with busy schedules .



Hand Written Notes

Before every class, you will be provided with class notes in the form of CRUX. After the classes, we will be providing the lecture / board PPTs and handwritten notes of that class.



Previous Year Questions

Actual questions that appeared in the Optional Exam in previous years will be Provided This will help in Identifying weak Areas.



Current Affairs Classes

Understanding current affairs adds context to your knowledge. All Current Events related to Optionals will be added in the course .



Mains Answer Writting

Mains answer writing will be conducted throughout the program with evaluation.



One to One Mentorship

During your entire journey, our mentors will track your progress and guide you through your academic journey. Your Mentor will act like a friend, philosopher and guide so that you can have a personalized help during the preparation journey.



Mains Test Series

A weekly Mains answer writing will be conducted throughout the program.



Weekly Doubt Clearing Sessions

Weekly Doubts Clearing Sessions where students can directly ask questions and clarify their doubts with instructors or subject experts. These sessions are a vital part of our Program .



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Optional Package Comparison

| Features | Gold | Platinum |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| 400+ hours of live lectures spread over 6 months | ✓ | ✓ |
| Live Doubt Clearing Sessions with Faculty | ✓ | ✓ |
| Recorded Lectures & Hand written Notes and Crux | ✓ | ✓ |
| Comprehensive Coverage of Every Topic with PYQ Discussion | ✓ | ✓ |
| Current affairs to keep the aspirants updated | ✓ | ✓ |
| Regular answer writing sessions with evaluation | ✗ | ✓ |
| One to one Mentorship 24*7 | ✗ | ✓ |
| Mains Test Series (Sectional & Full Length Test) | ✗ | ✓ |
| Weekly Doubt Clearing Sessions with Faculty | ✗ | ✓ |
| Validity | 18 Months | 30 Months |



Time Table

| Date | Paper | Chapter | Sub-Topics |
|--------------|-----------|---------------------------------|--|
| 30 September | | | Orientation |
| 30 September | 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 |
| 3 October | 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 |
| 9 October | 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 |
| 16 October | PAPER - 1 | Religion and Society | Sociological theories of Religion Types of religious practices: animism, monism, pluralism, sects, cults, and religion in modern society: religion and science, secularization, religious fundamentalism Family, Household, Marriage Types and forms of family Lineage and descent Patriarchy and sexual division of labour Contemporary trends |
| 22 October | 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 |

Time Table

| Date | Paper | Chapter | Sub-Topics |
|-------------|-----------|---|---|
| 6 November | PAPER - 1 | Perspectives on the study of Indian society | Indology (Ghurye) Structural Functionalism (Srinivas) Marxist Sociology (Desai) |
| 19 Novembe | PAPER - 1 | Impact of Colonial Rule | Social background of Indian nationalism Modernisation of Indian tradition Protest movements during colonial period Social reforms |
| 2 December | PAPER - 2 | Village | The idea of Indian Village Evolution of land tenure system, land reforms |
| 11 December | 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 |
| 17 December | PAPER - 2 | Tribe | Definitional Problems Geographical Spread Colonial policies and tribes Issues of integration and autonomy |
| 25 December | PAPER - 2 | Social classes in India | Agrarian class structure Industrial class structure Middle class structure |
| 29 December | 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 |



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Time Table

| Date | Paper | Chapter | Sub-Topics |
|------------|-----------|---|---|
| 2 January | PAPER - 2 | Religion and Society | Religious communities in India Problems of religious minorities |
| 6 January | PAPER - 2 | Social Change in India | Idea of development planning and mixed economy Constitution, law and social change Education and social change |
| 21 January | 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 |
| 27 January | PAPER - 2 | Industrialisation and Urbanisation in India | Evolution of modern industry in India Growth of urban settlements in India Working class: structure, growth, class mobilisation Informal sector, child labour Slums and deprivation in urban areas Evolution of modern industry in India |
| 4 February | PAPER - 2 | Politics and Society | Nation, democracy and citizenship Political parties, pressure groups, social and political elite Regionalism and decentralization of power Secularization |



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Time Table

| Date | Paper | Chapter | Sub-Topics |
|-------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 17 February | PAPER - 2 | Social Movements in India | Peasants and farmers movements Women's movement Backward classes & Dalit movement Environmental movements Ethnicity and identity movements |
| 24 February | 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 Crisis of development: displacement, environmental problems and sustainability |
| 3 March | PAPER - 2 | Challenges of Social Transformations | Poverty, deprivation and inequalities Violence against women Caste conflicts Ethnic conflicts, communalism, religious revivalism Illiteracy and disparities in education |
| 11 March | PAPER - 1 | Sociology - The Discipline | Modernity and Social change in Europe Scope of the subject and comparison Sociology and common sense |
| 16 March | PAPER - 1 | Sociology as Science | Science, scientific method and critique Positivism and its critique Fact value and objectivity Non-positivist methodologies |



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Time Table

| Date | Paper | Chapter | Sub-Topics |
|----------|-----------|-------------------------------|---|
| 21 March | PAPER - 1 | Research Methods and Analysis | Qualitative and quantitative methods Techniques of data collection Variables, Sampling, Hypothesis, Reliability and Validity |
| 30 March | PAPER - 1 | Sociological Thinkers | Karl Marx - Historical materialism Max Weber - Social action, ideal types, Authority, Bureaucracy, Power & status Emile Durkheim - DOL, Social fact, Suicide, Religion Talcott Parsons - Social system, Pattern variables Robert Merton - Latent & Manifest, Conformity and Deviance, Reference Group Mead - Self and Identity |

Time Table

| Test Series No. | Topics |
|-------------------|--|
| Sectional Test-1 | Thinkers & Stratification and Mobility |
| Sectional Test-2 | Work and Economic Life |
| Sectional Test-3 | Politics and Society |
| Sectional Test-4 | Religion and Society |
| Sectional Test-5 | System of Kinship in India |
| Sectional Test-6 | Social Change in India |
| Sectional Test-7 | Rural and Agrarian Transformation in India |
| Sectional Test-8 | Industrialisation and Urbanisation in India |
| Sectional Test-9 | Social Movements in India |
| Sectional Test-10 | Challenges of Social Transformations |
| Sectional Test-11 | Perspectives on the study of Indian society- |
| Sectional Test-12 | Sociology - The Discipline |
| Sectional Test-13 | Research Methods and Analysis |



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Our Faculty



Diwakar Botra

Sociology

- **Renowned educator** with a decade-long track record in guiding UPSC aspirants
- **4-time UPSC Interview Candidate (2007–2012)**, bringing firsthand experience of the exam process
- Has been mentoring students since 2014, with a deep understanding of UPSC trends and expectations
- Former faculty at prestigious institutes including Vajiram & Ravi, Mrunal (PDP), KSG, among others
- Holds dual Master's degrees in Sociology and Public Administration
- Also holds a degree in Master of Business Laws (M.B.L.)

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Our Prices

Price: ~~₹24,999~~

₹15,999

GOLD

Price: ~~₹38,999~~

₹20,999

Platinum



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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