



Political Science & International Relations Optional

Online



Dr Smita
Programme Director



About ALS ONLIVE

by Jojo Mathew, Manish K Gautam & Other Experts

Underpinning this offering by ALS Onlive is a group of gifted communicators - expert and enthusiastic teachers, who are dedicated to making their classes both academically rigorous and immensely enjoyable.

We have been loftily nurturing our pupils and seeing them crack the Civil Services Examination with poise. There is a rationale why around 20 percent of seats are secured annually by our alumni. We offer a rich and rewarding mix of courses, creative teaching methodology and maximal academic exposure in an inspirational environment. It all adds up to a winning combination of innovation and tradition: the best of both worlds.

The plenary alternative learning technology that is employed in the classes is based on the concept of lateral thinking. It is formulated to promote creativity, critical thinking and effortless learning. The sessions are supplemented with learning aids and exhaustive study material that result in timely completion of the courses while offering comprehensive coverage and an unwavering foundation.

Nothing that is worth knowing can be taught. It can only be learned. Take the oath to enlist.



Jojo Mathew

- An accomplished educationist and motivator.
- Have earned wide recognition as a teacher and mentor for the past 22 years.
- Has a unique ability to command multiple academic disciplines of General Studies.
- His insights have been instrumental in inculcating critical thinking and analytical ability in students.
- He has made effective use of technology to take quality coaching for civil services exam to the remotest parts of India.



Manish K Gautam

- Enthusiasm incarnated as a mentor for Civil Services, handling substantial portion of GS Syllabus through, engaging & thought provoking sessions for development of critical power of assimilation in students.
- The guide who can make the journey intriguing and invigorating with a firm foot at the core of subjects and branching enough to offer the shade in this draining, battle till success.



DELIVERING **20%** SELECTIONS CONSISTENTLY



POLITICAL SCIENCE & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (OPTIONAL)

Political Science and International Relations has always remained one of the most sought optional papers among Civil Services aspirants. Significantly, its relevance and demand has seen many fold increase since the last syllabus revision as it helps candidates to cover significant aspects of prelims and mains syllabus simultaneously. The efficacy of Political Science and International Relations as optional paper is reflected in the fact that it ranks as one of the top choices among candidates who have succeeded in the Civil Services Exams over the years. Following are the reasons why the subject qualifies as an attractive option while choosing the optional subject:

Firstly, the impression that the syllabus is vast is hugely exaggerated. A close look would suggest significant repetitions and interrelation among topics, particularly in the theoretical aspects of the syllabus.

Secondly, if one understands the concepts and ideas well, it can easily be related with practical examples and events, which also makes it an attractive choice among those who do not have any experience in the subject.

Thirdly, knowledge of Political Science and international Relation helps to develop analytical and descriptive aptitude simultaneously, which other than the optional paper, would be of great help in Mains exam while writing Essay and answering GS questions.

Fourthly, and supposedly the most pragmatic reason to choose Political Science and International Relations as optional subject is that it helps immensely in the preparation for Prelims as well as GS (Mains) papers. Around 40% of Paper-I in Prelims includes topics which are part of Political Science optional paper. For example, Indian Polity and Governance, Indian National Movement, Current National and International Events would include a large part of what we are going to already discuss in the optional paper. Similarly, in the new syllabus, 25% of GS-I, 100% of GS-II and 20% of GS-III is covered under the optional syllabus. For example, the syllabus of GS-II titled 'Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International Relations' entirely correspond with parts of the syllabus for the optional paper.

Fifthly, Political Science and International Relations as an optional subject offers a deep understanding of the social and political field that can immensely contribute in ones role as a bureaucrat, when selected.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

- 200+ hours of Intensive learning combining live interactive classes and recorded lectures.
- Special classes to include Review of Previous Year's Question Papers and tips for Answer Writing.
- Balanced focus on Theoretical and Practical aspects of the syllabus and their interrelationship.
- Regular simulated tests as per UPSC standards, and based on evaluation discussions about areas of improvement.
- Extensively researched and updated reading material on each topic.

SYLLABUS

PAPER-I

Political Theory and Indian Politics :

1. **Political Theory:** meaning and approaches.
2. **Theories of state :** Liberal, Neo-liberal, Marxist, Pluralist, post-colonial and Feminist.
3. **Justice :** Conceptions of justice with special reference to Rawl's theory of justice and its communitarian critiques.
4. **Equality :** Social, political and economic; relationship between equality and freedom; Affirmative action.
5. **Rights :** Meaning and theories; different kinds of rights; Concept of Human Rights.
6. **Democracy :** Classical and contemporary theories; different models of democracy— representative, participatory and deliberative.
7. **Concept of power :** hegemony, ideology and legitimacy.
8. **Political Ideologies :** Liberalism, Socialism, Marxism, Fascism, Gandhism and Feminism.
9. **Indian Political Thought:** *Dharamshastra, Arthashastra* and Buddhist Traditions; Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Sri Aurobindo, M. K. Gandhi, B. R. Ambedkar, M. N. Roy.
10. **Western Political Thought :** Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, John S. Mill, Marx, Gramsci, Hannah Arendt.

Indian Government and Politics

1. **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.
2. **Making of the Indian Constitution :** Legacies of the British rule; different social and political perspectives.
3. **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.
 - (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.
5. **Grassroots Democracy :** Panchayati Raj and Municipal Government; Significance of 73rd and 74th Amendments; Grassroot movements.
6. **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.
7. **Federalism :** Constitutional provisions; changing nature of centre-state relations; integrationist tendencies and regional aspirations; inter-state disputes.
8. **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.
9. Caste, Religion and Ethnicity in Indian Politics.
10. **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.
11. **Social Movement :** Civil liberties and human rights movements; women's movements; environmentalist movements.

PAPER-II

Comparative Politics and International Relations Comparative Political Analysis and International Politics :

1. **Comparative Politics** : Nature and major approaches; Political economy and political sociology perspectives; Limitations of the comparative method.
2. **State in Comparative Perspective** : Characteristics and changing nature of the State in capitalist and socialist economies, and advanced industrial and developing societies.
3. **Politics of Representation and Participation** : Political parties, pressure groups and social movements in advanced industrial and developing societies.
4. **Globalisation** : Responses from developed and developing societies.
5. **Approaches to the Study of International Relations** : Idealist, Realist, Marxist, Functionalist and Systems theory.
6. **Key Concepts in International Relations** : National interest, security and power; Balance of power and deterrence; Transnational actors and collective security; World capitalist economy and globalisation.
7. **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.
8. **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.
9. **United Nations** : Envisaged role and actual record; Specialized UN agencies—aims and functioning; need for UN reforms.
10. **Regionalisation of World Politics** : EU, ASEAN, APEC, AARC, NAFTA.
11. **Contemporary Global Concerns** : Democracy, human rights, environment, gender justice terrorism, nuclear proliferation.

India and the World

1. **Indian Foreign Policy** : Determinants of foreign policy; the institutions of policy-making; Continuity and change.
2. India's Contribution to the Non-Alignment Movement Different phases; Current role.
3. 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 and insurgencies; Border disputes.
4. **India and the Global South** : Relations with Africa and Latin America; Leadership role in the demand for NIEO and WTO negotiations.
5. **India and the Global Centres of Power** : USA, EU, Japan, China and Russia.
6. **India and the UN System**: Role in UN Peace-keeping; Demand for Permanent Seat in the Security Council.
7. **India and the Nuclear Question** : Changing perceptions and policy.
8. **Recent developments in Indian Foreign Policy** : India's position on the recent crises in Afghanistan, Iraq and West Asia, growing relations with US and Isreal; Vision of a new world order.



Master Planner

Political Science & International Relations Online Course

Unit	Duration (mins.)
IPT (Gandhi)	150
IPT (Ambedkar; Aurobindo)	150
IPT (M.N. Roy; S.A. Khan)	150
IPT (Dharmashastra; Arthashastra; Buddhism)	150
Salient Features of the Indian Constitution	150
Salient Features of the Indian Constitution	150
Strategies of Freedom Struggle	150
Strategies of Freedom Struggle	150
Principle Organs of the Union Government	150
Relationship among Three Organs	150
Principle organs of state government	150
Making of the Indian Constitution	150
Approaches to I.R. (1)	150
Approaches to I.R. (2)	150
Key Concepts in I.R. (1)	150
Key Concepts in I.R. (2)	150
WPT (Plato; Aristotle)	150
WPT (Enlightenment; Machiavelli)	150
WPT (Hobbes; Locke)	150
WPT (Mill; Marx)	150
WPT (Gramsci; Ardent)	150
Political Theory (Intro.)	150
Power	150
Democracy	150
Federalism (1)	150
Federalism (2)	150
Party System (1)	150
Party System (2)	150
Caste; Ethnicity	150
Religion	150
Planning	150
Economic Reforms	150
Grassroots Democracy	150
Social Movements (Women/Environment)	150
Human Rights; Civil Rights	150
Commissions	150
Theories of State (Liberal; Neo-liberal)	150
Theories of state (Marxist/Pluralist)	150
Theories of State (Post-Colonial/Feminist)	150
Rights	150
Equality	150
Justice	150

Perspectives on Indian National Movement (1)	150
Perspectives on Indian National Movement (2)	150
Globalization (1)	150
Globalization (2)	150
Contemporary Global Concern (Environment)	150
Contemporary Global Concern (Nuclear Policy)	150
Contemporary Global Concern (Democracy and Human Rights)	150
Contemporary Global Concern (Gender; Terrorism)	150
Comparative Politics	150
State	150
.....	150
NAM	150
Regionalization (1)	150
Regionalization (2)	150
Political Ideologies (1)	150
Political Ideologies (2)	150
Political Ideologies	150
Representation and Participation	150
Changing I.R. Order (1)	150
Changing I.R. Order (2)	150
Changing I.R. Order (3)	150
ASEAN	150
IR Economic System (1)	150
IR Economic system (2)	150
India and Global South	150
Commissions	150
India and China	150
Indian and US	150
India and Global Powers	150
SAARC	150
India and South Asia	150
Recent Developments in IFP (1)	150
Recent Developments in IFP (2)	150
Recent developments in IFP (3)	150
Answer Writing (Paper I)	150
Answer Writing (PaperII)	150
UN	150
India and UN	150



About Civil Services Examination

The Indian Civil Service was the elite higher civil service of the British Empire in India between 1858 and 1947. Lord Warren Hastings laid the foundation of civil service and Charles Cornwallis reformed, modernised and rationalised it. Hence, Charles Cornwallis is known as the 'Father of Civil Service in India'. Its members ruled more than 300 million Indians and were ultimately responsible for overseeing all government activities in the 250 districts that comprised British India. The present modern civil service was formed after the partition of India in 1947. It was Sardar Patel's vision that the Civil Services should strengthen cohesion and national unity.

The Civil Services Examination (CSE) is a nationwide competitive examination conducted by the Union Public Service Commission for recruitment to various Civil Services of the Government of India, including the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Foreign Service (IFS), Indian Police Service (IPS) among others. It is conducted in two phases - a preliminary examination consisting of two objective-type papers (general studies and aptitude test), and a main examination consisting of nine papers of conventional (essay) type, followed by a personality test (interview).

From 2011 onwards, the preliminary examination, now popularly known as the Civil Services Aptitude Test (CSAT) (officially it is still called General Studies Paper-1 and Paper-2), intends to focus on analytical abilities and understanding, rather than the ability to memorize. The new pattern includes two papers of two hours duration and 200 marks each. Both papers have multiple choice objective type questions only.

Paper I tests the candidate's knowledge on current events, history of India and Indian national movement, Indian and world geography, Indian polity and governance, economic and social development, environmental ecology, biodiversity & climate change and general science.

Paper II tests the candidate's proficiency in comprehension, interpersonal and communication skills, logical reasoning, analytical ability, decision making and problem solving ability, basic numeracy, data interpretation, and general mental ability.

The main examination is a written examination consisting of nine papers, two qualifying and seven for ranking purpose. Candidates who pass the qualifying papers are ranked according to marks obtained in the remaining 7 Papers. A selected number of candidates are called for Interview or a Personality Test at the Commission's discretion.

There are four papers of 'General Studies', of 250 marks each, which comprises of Indian heritage, history and culture, Geography of India and the world, Indian Polity, constitution and governance, Social Issues, International relations, Indian economic development, Biodiversity and environment, security and disaster management as well as ethics, integrity and aptitude.

There is also a separate essay paper where the candidates are asked to write to large essays from choices of topics given based on General Studies itself.

The candidate will have to answer 2 papers of 250 marks each from a subject chosen from a list of Optional Subjects. Two qualifying papers are of Indian Language and English.

The overwhelming share of General studies in the total scheme of examination warrants an extensive preparation of these subjects for getting qualified in this examination. Selection of optional subject is also very important, in the overall context.

Scheme of Civil Services Examination



Introduction

Union Public Service Commission is a body under the Constitution of India, which conducts the exams for the Civil Services. Almost 10 lakh aspirants enrol each year while almost 5 lakh candidates appear for the exam. The Preliminary examination is conducted in May/June while the Main examination is conducted in November/December.

Pattern of the Examination

UPSC Civil Services Examination is divided into two stages: Preliminary Examination & Main Examination

Stage 1 - Preliminary Examination

- The Examination shall comprise of two compulsory Papers of 200 marks each.
- Both the question papers will be of the objective type (multiple choice questions) and each will be of two hours duration
- The General Studies Paper-II of the Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination will be a qualifying paper with minimum qualifying marks fixed at 33%
- The question papers will be set both in Hindi and English.

Stage 2 - Main Examination

- Main examination is a conventional (Essay Type) exam consisting of 9 papers followed by a Personality Test.

Paper 1 - Essay	Paper 4 - GS 3	Paper 7 - Optional Subject
Paper 2 - GS I	Paper 5 - GS 4	Paper 8 - Compulsory English
Paper 3 - GS 2	Paper 6 - Optional Subject	Paper 9 - Compulsory Indian Language

- Each paper is of 250 marks except Paper 8 & 9 which is of 300 marks each. The marks for Paper 8 & 9 are not counted in the final score.
- UPSC has a list of 26 subjects from which the candidates shall choose one. The chosen optional subject is divided into two papers for paper 6 & 7.

Interview/Personality Test (275 Marks)

- The candidate will be interviewed by a Board who will have before them a record of his/her career. He/she will be asked questions on matters of general interest. The objective of the interview is to assess the personal suitability of the candidate for a career in public service by a Board of competent and unbiased observers. The test is intended to judge the mental caliber of a candidate. In broad terms, this is really an assessment of not only his/her intellectual qualities but also social traits and his/her interest in current affairs. Some of the qualities to be judged are mental alertness, critical powers of assimilation, clear and logical exposition, balance of judgement, variety and depth of interest, ability for social cohesion and leadership, intellectual and moral integrity.



Scheme of Civil Services Examination

- ⇒ The technique of the interview is not that of a strict cross-examination but of a natural, though directed and purposive conversation which is intended to reveal the mental qualities of the candidate.
- ⇒ The interview test is not intended to be a test either of the specialized or general knowledge of the candidates which has been already tested through their written papers. Candidates are expected to have taken an intelligent interest not only in their special subjects of academic study but also in the events which are happening around them both within and outside their own state or country as well as in modern currents of thought and in new discoveries which should rouse the curiosity of well educated youth.

Rank List

- ⇒ Rank List is prepared based on the total marks obtained in the Seven Written Papers of Main Examination and the Marks of the Personality Test. (i.e. 1750 Marks from Seven Papers + 275 Marks for Personality Test = 2025 Total Marks)

Eligibility

- ⇒ The educational qualification needed to appear in UPSC Civil Services Examination is Graduation in any subject recognized by UGC.

Age Limit and Attempts


- ⇒ The minimum age to appear for UPSC Civil Services Examination is 21 years and upper age limit and no. of attempts for various categories are as follows:

General	32 years	06 Attempts
EWS	32 years (No relaxation)	06 Attempts (10% reservation)
OBCs	35 years (3-years relaxation)	09 Attempts
SC/ST	37 years (5-years relaxation)	Unlimited attempt till the age limit

Important Dates

Notification and Form filling for IAS Prelim Exam – February / March	
Date of Preliminary Examination – May/June	Result of Preliminary Exam – August/September
Commencement of Main Exam – Sept/October	Declaration of Main Exam Results – December/January
Personality Test – February/March	Declaration of Final Merit List – May/June

User Guide




Phone No. / User ID

Enter Password

LOGIN

Create a new account
Forgot Password?

REGISTRATION



Student Name

Email Id

City

Mobile Number

Use your mobile number as User Id


Password

Confirm password

SEND OTP ON MOBILE #

Already have an account?

FORGOT PASSWORD



Please enter your registered mobile number for verification

Mobile Number

VERIFY MOBILE NUMBER

You will receive an OTP on this number.

ALS Live

IAS Exam

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LIVE
FACULTY
JOJO MATHEW MANISH GAUTAM
Strategist Morning Batch (Eng.): Live Batch

Strategist After Batch

Helpdesk Numbers : 08586903756 / 08586903746

Full Course for IAS Exam

IAS Exam

GS STRATEGIST
LIVE
FACULTY
Jojo Mathew, Manish K Gautam and other experts
IAS 2021 GS Full Course: Online Classes during lock-down and offline classes

Online Batch for IAS Exam

My Wall My Batches My Notices Helpdesk

ALS Live

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MCP Morning Batch (Hindi) Live Batch

INDIAN POLITY

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Strategist Morning Batch (Eng.)

Starts on Mar 13, 7:30 am
Mar 13 - Mar 01. 50 weeks

Lessons 8, Quizzes 5

Course Structure

Lectures	Notes	Tests
Paper Work Lessons 5, 10 Quizzes		
Jun 27	Demo Class Content New Live Class on Jun 27	
Geometry Lessons 5, 10 Quizzes		
01	Geometry Class 1 Part I VOD Class	

My Wall My Batches My Notices Helpdesk