

POLITICAL SCIENCE & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OPTIONAL UPSC SYLLABUS

“All concepts of politics, of whatever kind, are about conflict—how to contain it, or abolish it.”

- Ralph Miliband

PSIR Optional: Batch 1

- Batch Starts on **31st Oct 2022** - till **30 April 2023**

Features

- Approximately **330 Hours** of Classes (Intensive Classroom Programme)
- Classes from Monday till Friday
- **PSIR Test Series:** Includes **8 Tests** (Sectional & Comprehensive)
- **Course Mode:** Offline/Live Class (Hybrid)
- **Doubt Sessions:** 2 to 3 Days of Offline Discussion and Doubt Sessions every Month at Kanpur & Pune Centre
- **Batch Starts** on **31st Oct 2022** and will continue till **30 April 2023**
- **Course Language:** English Medium
- **Class Format:**
 - First 2 Months (5+1) Classes
 - After 2 Months (5+2) Classes
- **Features**
- One Lecture every Week about Political & International Developments; on **Saturday**
- **Answer Writing Practice** included at the end of every unit
- Regular Mentorship of PSIR
- Notes on Current Development will be Provided Weekly
- **Daily Class Duration:** **2.5 hours**
- **Class Timings:** **1:30 pm to 4:00 pm**
- Explanation and Dictation (Classroom Material)
- Material with thorough Analysis and Recent updates
 - **Fees & Installment Options**
- **With 2 Easy Instalment Options:**
 - **At Registration Rs.12,500/- + GST and the**
 - **Remaining amt of 12,500/- by 15 Dec 2022**
- **Batch Starting: 31st Oct 2022**

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. Government strives to have a workforce which reflects gender balance and women candidates are encouraged to apply.
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.

PAPER- I Indian Government and Politics

1. Indian Nationalism :

- **Political Strategies of India's Freedom Struggle : Constitutionalism to mass Satyagraha, Non-cooperation, Civil Disobedience; Militant and Revolutionary Movements, Peasant and Workers Movements.**
- **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.

4. (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, CAG, Finance Commission, UPSC, 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

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** :
 - **Rise of super powers**; Strategic and ideological Bipolarity, arms race and cold war; Nuclear threat;
 - **Non-aligned Movement** : Aims and achievements.

- **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.

PAPER- II India and the World Relations

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 Israel; Vision of a new world order.

"Democracy arises out of the notion that those who are equal in any respect are equal in all respects; because men are equally free, they claim to be absolutely equal." ~ Aristotle

"We need a new political science for a new world." ~ Alexis de Tocqueville