GS SCORE
An Institute for Civil Services

IAS 2024

POLITICAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

WEEKEND BATCH

6 Months Intensive Weekend Programme to cover complete syllabus of **Political Science Optional.**

Coverage of extended topics, New Theories & Commentaries "Special in Paper-1 Section-A, Paper-2 Section-A"

Regular Doubt clearing session with the faculty.

Test Series of **total 12 Tests** including **8 Sectional & 4 Mock Tests**

Meticulously designed **Study Materials**

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Mentor:
R.P. SINGH

GS SCORE

POLITICAL SCIENCE

PROGRAMME DELIVERY

Classes will be conducted on weekends (Saturday & Sunday).

- Duration of the class will be 4 hours.
- Classes will be conducted on both online and offline mode.
- Certain Topics will be covered through online classes

Coverage of New Theories and Commentaries "Special in Paper-1 Section-A, Paper-2 Section-A"

Discussion of previous year papers & Most Important Areas

Innovative methodology of teaching, Application of different approaches mentioned in syllabus

Explanation of the interlinks between PSIR and GS papers

Extended Topics of PSIR optional to be Covered in Political Science Advance Classes

Complete test series of total 12 tests including 8 Sectional and 4 Mock tests

Regular mentorship session with the faculty.

WHY POL SCIENCE OPTIONAL

01 Political Science and International Relations (PSIR) as optional subject in UPSC Mains has emerged to be the most reliable and highest scoring subject to qualify the UPSC with high rank.

02 PSIR as optional subject in UPSC mains covers the entire syllabus of General Studies Paper 2. Also in General studies Paper 1, it covers crucial topics like Post-Independence Consolidation, Ideologies and social issues.

03 Moreover, topics like internal security and environmental issues in IR from General Studies Paper-3 are already part of PSIR syllabus. Lastly, PSIR is helpful in General Studies Paper-4 since major philosophical thinkers/leaders ranging from Plato, Aristotle, Kautilya, Gandhi and Ambedkar are already covered in PSIR paper-1.

04 Every year essay topics are directly related to political science.

05 ·At the interview stage, PSIR is one of the most helpful subjects since it enables candidates to easily answer deep understanding based questions from Polity and International Relations in a short span of time.

ABOUT FACULTY

In GS SCORE the PSIR optional classes for UPSC mains is under the guidance of R P Singh Sir. He has done M.PHIL from School of International Studies (JNU), M.A. from School of International Studies (JNU) and LLB (Delhi University). He believes in interactive learning so he regularly interacts with the students to clear all the doubts of students. Overall, the faculty maintains a balanced interaction-based teaching, careful monitoring of progress of students along with personal and detailed guidance.

SYLLABUS TO BE COVERED

PAPER - I

POLITICAL THEORY & INDIAN POLICIES

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

INDIAN GOVERNMENT POLICIES

- **Indian Nationalism:** Political Strategies of India's Freedom struggle: constitutionalism to mass Satyagraha, Non-cooperation, Civil Disobedience; millitant and revolutionary movements, Peasant and workers' movements.
- **Perspectives on Indian National Movement:** Liberal, Socialist and Marxist; Radical humanist and Dalit.
- **Making of the Indian Constitution:** Legacies of the British rule; different social and political perspectives.
- **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.
- **Principal Organs of the Union Government:** Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature and Supreme Court.
- Principal Organs of the State Government: Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature and High Courts.
- **Grassroots Democracy:** Panchayati Raj and Municipal Government; significance of 73rd and 74th Amendments; Grassroot movements.
- **Statutory Institutions/Commissions:**

SYLLABUS TO BE COVERED

- Election Commission, Comptroller and Auditor General, Finance Commission, Union Public Service Commission, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, National Comission for scheduled Tribes, National Commission for Women; National Human Rights Commission, National Commission for Minorities, National Backward Classes Commission.
- **Federalism:** Constitutional provisions; changing nature of centre-state relations; integrationist tendencies and regional aspirations; inter-state disputes.
- **Planning and Economic Development:** Nehruvian and Gandhian perspectives; role of planning and public sector; Green Revolution, land reforms and agrarian relations; liberalilzation and economic reforms.
- Caste, Religion and Ethnicity in Indian Politics.
- **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.
- **Social Movements:** Civil liberties and human rights movements; women's movements; environmentalist movements

PAPER - 2

- **COMPARATIVE POLITICAL ANALYSIS & INTERNATIONAL POLITICS**

Comparative Politics: Nature and major approaches; political economy and political sociology perspectives; limitations of the comparative method.

- **State in comparative perspective:** Characteristics and changing nature of the State in capitalist and socialist economies, and, advanced industrial and developing societies.
- **Politics of Representation and Participation:** Political parties, pressure groups and social movements in advanced industrial and developing societies.
- **Globalisation:** Responses from developed and developing societies.
- Approaches to the Study of International Relations: Idealist, Realist, Marxist, Functionalist and Systems theory.
- **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.
- **Changing International Political Order:** Rise of super powers; strategic and ideological Bipolarity, arms race and Cold War; nuclear threat; Non-al igned movement: Aims and achievements; Collapse of the Soviet Union; Unipolarity and American hegemony; relevance of non-alignment in the contemporary world.
- **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.
- **United Nations:** Envisaged role and actual record; specialized UN agencies-aims and

SYLLABUS TO BE COVERED

- functioning; need for UN reforms.
  - **Regionalisation of World Politics:** EU, ASEAN, APEC, SAARC, NAFTA.
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  - **Contemporary Global Concerns:** Democracy, human rights, environment, gender justice, terrorism, nuclear proliferation.

COMPARATIVE POLITICS & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

- **Indian Foreign Policy:** Determinants of foreign policy; institutions of policy-making; continuity and change.
- **India's Contribution to the Non-Alignment Movement:** Different phases; current role
- **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.
- **India and the Global South:** Relations with Africa and Latin America; leadership role in the demand for NIEO and WTO negotiations.
- **India and the Global Centres of Power:** USA, EU, Japan, China and Russia.
- **India and the UN System:** Role in UN Peace-keeping; demand for Permanent Seat in the Security Council.
- **India and the Nuclear Question:** Changing perceptions and policy.
- **Recent developments in Indian Foreign policy:** India's position on the recent crisis in Afghanistan, Iraq and West Asia, growing relations with US and Israel; vision of a new world order.

POLITICAL THEORY & THOUGHT

- Post-colonial and feminist state
- Marxist, 'Neo Marxist State' and 'Post Marxist and Social Pluralism'
- Authority and legitimacy dynamics, Joseph Raz on Political authority
- Contemporary theories of legitimacy with special reference to 'Habermass legitimation crisis' and David Beetham's views on Political legitimacy
- Concepts of Communitarianism, 'Conception of self; Encumbered Vs Unencumbered', 'Universalism Vs Particularism', 'Priority of Right over the Good' Vs 'Priority of Good over the Right', 'State Neutrality Vs Non-Neutrality of State'
- Rawls theory of justice, Justice as entitlement –Robert Nozick, Communi-tarian perspective on Justice- Michael Walzer, Susan moller Okin conception of justice
- Idea of Global Justice with special reference to Thomas Pogge
- Debates on equality with special reference to contemporary thinks (Scheffler, Derek parfit and others), Debates on liberty with special reference to Quentin skinner
- Contemporary theories of rights with special reference to Dworkin, Robert Nozik and HLA hart
- Multiculturalism and Cultural rights with special

SYLLABUS TO BE COVERED

- reference to will Kymlicka and Robert E Goodin, Group rights and Joseph Raz and critical evaluation of Amy Gutmann
- Impact of Globalization on Democracies and Democratic theories, Cosmopolitan Democratic Governance

IGP

- **Approaches to study Indian Government and Politics.**
- **Social and New Social Movements:** Meaning, Scope and Application

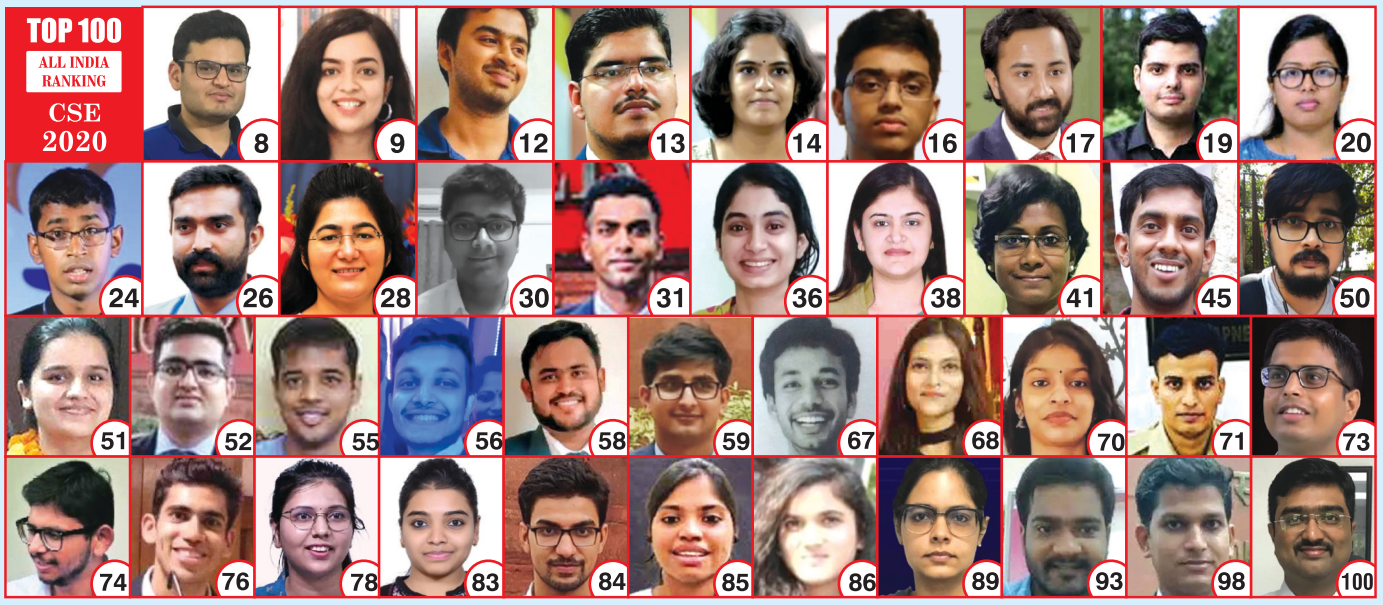
IR Theories

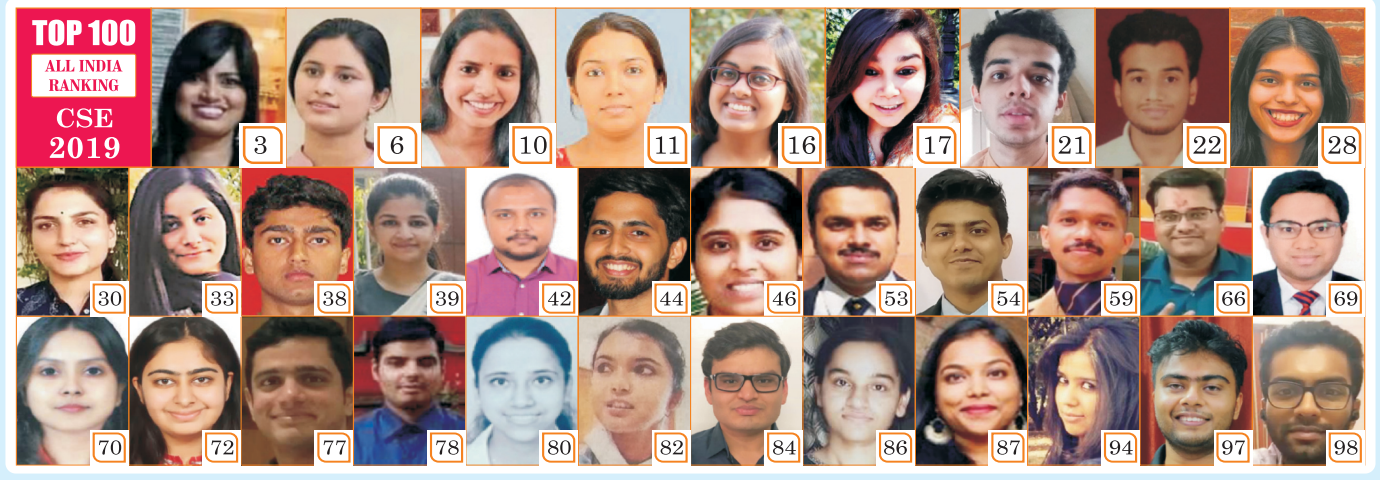
- The four great debates in International relations
- The Globalization of Human Rights, "Globalization, Human rights and State", "Globalization, transnational Corporations and Human Rights"
- Realist, Subaltern realism and Peripheral realism, Functionalist and Systems theory.
- Feminism in International relations, Feminist criticism of rationality, feminist understanding of 'Power and State'
- Social Constructivism
- Marxism and post-positivism; Critical theories
- Security and Economic Regimes in International Relations
- Third World Security studies
- Evolution of Indian Foreign Policy
- Discussion on few themes:
  - Water disputes at regional level
  - Illegal cross border immigration regional and global level
  - Terrorism at regional and global level
  - Ethinic conflicts and insurgeries
- Bilateral Relations with South Asian and West Asian Countries
- Comparative Study of co-operation and conflict of India China on different regional such as: Africa, Central Asia, Indian Ocean

CSE RESULTS

GS SCORE

SUCCESS IS A PRACTICE WE DO!





1B, 2nd Floor, Metro Tower, Pusa Road Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005, (Adjacent to Karol Bagh Metro Gate No. 8)

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