

# GEOGRAPHY OPTIONAL

# FOUNDATION

## PROGRAMME *for* 2026-27



MENTOR  
PRINCE MISHRA

### PROGRAMME FEES

ONLINE: ₹ 37,000+GST

OFFLINE: ₹ 42,000+GST



One-on-One  
Mentorship  
& Doubt  
Clearance

4.5 Months  
Intensive  
Classroom  
Programme

Special  
Sessions  
on Map  
Marking

Linkage  
of Dynamic  
areas and  
Contemporary  
Events

Answer  
Writing  
Practice  
& PYQ  
integration

Quality  
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Material



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### COVERING BOTH PAPER 1 & PAPER 2 WITH MICRO-TOPICS



The course will cover each and every Micro-topic from the syllabus so that you will never leave a question unanswered.

Dive into our comprehensive Geography. Optional Foundation Course designed for a 4.5 month classroom journey.



### FOCUSED 4.5-MONTH FOUNDATION PROGRAM

### INNOVATIVE TEACHING METHODS & ANALYTICAL FOCUS



Enhance understanding & interlinking with modern teaching methods, using templates, mind maps, and mnemonics for analytical thinking.

Gauge your progress with 11 Sectional and 2 Mock Tests, ensuring a solid grasp of the Geography Optional syllabus.



### 13-TEST SERIES FOR THOROUGH PREPARATION

### INTEGRATION OF DATA, DIAGRAMS, AND EXAMPLES



Build a strong foundation by incorporating data, diagrams, and examples, enhancing your ability to present information clearly and persuasively.

Map Work will be covered in class along with special sessions on map marking



### Special Map Marking Sessions

### PERSONALISED DOUBT RESOLUTION FOR ONLINE STUDENTS



Get individualised support for clearing doubts, ensuring a deep understanding of historical concepts and exam-related queries through Zoom Sessions.

Learn effective answer-writing techniques from successful candidates, gaining valuable insights and strategies for exam success.



### Regular Answer Writing Practice

# WHAT IS GEOGRAPHY FOUNDATION COURSE?

- ❑ Explanation of the course's objective to build a strong foundation with the right strategy for Geography Optional, ensuring high scores.
- ❑ Introduction to the Concept-Revision-Practice approach designed to help students achieve 300+ marks in Geography Optional.
- ❑ Focus on Changing Dynamics of Geography Optional as per the demand of UPSC.
- ❑ Offer of on-demand unlimited mentorship from Prince Mishra Sir.

## CLASS NOTES

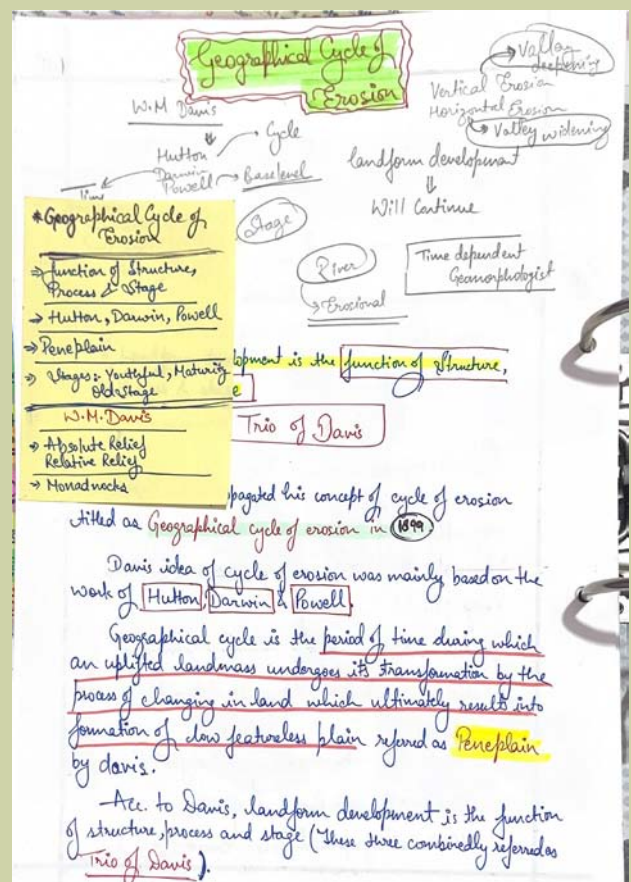
### Evaluation of Davis Cycle of Erosion

#### Positives

- \* Davisian model of geographical cycle is very simple & also it is very much applicable to large scale landform that are distributed in different parts of the world's landform.
- \* Davis model is based on his own field observations.
- \* It was the first successful theory of L.F. Development.
- \* Davis has synthesised the ideas of Hutton & Powell to propagate a sequential L.F. Development concept.

#### Negatives

- \* Acc. to Davis, cycle will begin once the upliftment will stop but in reality both the endogenic & exogenic forces act simultaneously not in isolation.
  - \* Davis has given too much focus to the stage that he himself has neglected the two other function of L.F. Development that is structure & processes. So, Davis himself has not regarded his
- And the assumption of constant base level has been heavily criticized as earth has not witnessed such a crustal stability in such a long geological history. Even in his later modification he considered the possibility of changing base level but he considered it as an abnormality.
- Since he has only considered the role of rivers which have been criticized by the diff. proponents as in case has been represented by Widemann-Hedra who has propagated the trid cycle of erosion or trid cycle of erosion.





## Class Test

03/01/2015 CLASS - 107

5% With the use of technology even the perishable commodities can be transported to great distance like refrigerated fitted ships transport large scale items like milk, cheese, butter from NZ & AUS to Europe which is almost 17,000 kms away.

6% In present time period no hinterland is so far surrounded by wilderness & also presently most of the places are served by more than one urban centre.

Q. Explain the relevance and applicability of Von Thunen's Theory of agricultural location in today's world. [15 Marks]

Q. Write a note on the relevance of Von Thunen's agricultural theory in the present context. [10 Marks]

## On Spot Answer Writing

Q. The locational rent will primarily depend on the transportation cost which will vary with the distance from the market or Urban centre.

Based on the concept of locational rent he has divided his own estate in 6 different concentric zone.

**Zone I**

→ Horticulture with Dairy production  
These are the perishable goods for which the farmer will get more prices so they will generate more rent.  
In this zone the farmer will cultivate the vegetable and cattle rearing mainly for dairy products.  
As these are the perishable items it needs to be sold in the market immediately.

**Zone II**

→ Firewood and Lumbering  
Here the forest will be prone under the controlled manner as the forestry is mainly practiced to provide wood for the cooking purpose as it was the main source of energy in medieval & ancient time.

## Rivers &amp; Map Works

11/24 CLASS - 79

**GANGA**

Ganga river originates from Gangotri Glacier of Uttarakhand district of UK in the name of Bhagirathi River. Bhagirathi River joins Alaknanda at Devprayag, and thereafter the river flows in the name of Ganga.

Further downstream famous town Rishikesh is located and 15 kms south of Rishikesh Ganga comes out over the plain at Haridwar.

Here after the river flows to south and south east direction & reaches Patna where it is joined by Yamuna River and also believed to be Sonmati the confluence is known as Varanasi @ Prayag.

Here after the river flows in east direction upto Raj Mahal Hills and from here the river flows southward.

(10 Marks + 10)

## Geographical Theories

02/01/2015 CLASS - 106

**Von Thunen's Agricultural Location Model**

Von Thunen, Weber, Christaller

(1826)

→ How to maximize profit from land?

Land Rent

→ What crop need to be cultivated?

Wilderness  
Hinterland  
Urban  
Horticulture  
Firewood and Lumbering  
Agriculture

Mode of Transportation  
→ Horse Cart

Uniform Surface (featureless Plain)  
Isotopic landform

Rational Economic Man

Land Rent = Sale Price - [Cost of Production + Cost of Transportation]

Land Rent  $\propto \frac{1}{\text{Cost of Transportation}}$

Profit of farmer/Agriculture will be profitable

# MICRO ANALYSIS

## PAPER - I:

### Principles of Geography

#### Section A – Physical Geography

##### 1. Geomorphology

- ☐ Factors controlling landform development
- ☐ Endogenetic and exogenetic forces
- ☐ Origin and evolution of the earth's crusts
- ☐ Fundamentals of geomagnetism
- ☐ Physical conditions of the earth's interior
- ☐ Geosynclines
- ☐ Continental drift;
- ☐ Isostasy
- ☐ Plate tectonics;
- ☐ Recent views on mountain building
- ☐ Volcanicity
- ☐ Earthquakes and Tsunamis
- ☐ Concepts of geomorphic cycles and Land scape development
- ☐ Denudation chronology
- ☐ Channel morphology
- ☐ Erosion surfaces
- ☐ Slope development
- ☐ Applied Geomorphology: Geohydrology, economic geology and environment.

##### 2. Climatology

- ☐ Temperature and pressure belts of the world
- ☐ Heat budget of the earth
- ☐ Atmospheric circulation
- ☐ Atmospheric stability and instability
- ☐ Planetary and local winds
- ☐ Monsoons and jet streams
- ☐ Air masses and front
- ☐ Temperate and tropical cyclones
- ☐ Types and distribution of precipitation
- ☐ Weather and Climate

- ☐ Koppen's Thornthwaite's and Trewartha's classification of world climate
- ☐ Hydrological cycle
- ☐ Global climatic change, and role and response of man in climatic changes Applied climatology and Urban climate.

##### 3. Oceanography

- ☐ Bottom topography of the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans
- ☐ Temperature and salinity of the oceans
- ☐ Heat and salt budgets, Ocean deposits
- ☐ Waves, currents and tides
- ☐ Marine resources
- ☐ Biotic, mineral and energy resources
- ☐ Coral reefs coral bleaching
- ☐ Sea-level changes
- ☐ Law of the sea and marine pollution.

##### 4. Biogeography

- ☐ Genesis of soils
- ☐ Classification and distribution of soils
- ☐ Soil profile
- ☐ Soil erosion, Degradation and conservation
- ☐ Factors influencing world distribution of plants and animals
- ☐ Problems of deforestation and conservation measures
- ☐ Social forestry, agro-forestry
- ☐ Wild life
- ☐ Major gene pool centres.

##### 5. Environmental Geography

- ☐ Principle of ecology
- ☐ Human ecological adaptations
- ☐ Influence of man on ecology and environment
- ☐ Global and regional ecological changes and imbalances
- ☐ Ecosystem their management and conservation

- ☐ Environmental degradation, management and conservation
- ☐ Biodiversity and sustainable development
- ☐ Environmental policy
- ☐ Environmental hazards and remedial measures
- ☐ Environmental education and legislation

## Section-B Human Geography

### 6. Perspectives in Human Geography

- ☐ Areal differentiation
- ☐ Regional synthesis
- ☐ Dichotomy and dualism
- ☐ Environmentalism
- ☐ Quantitative revolution and locational analysis
- ☐ Radical, behavioural, human and welfare approaches
- ☐ Languages, religions and secularisation
- ☐ Cultural regions of the world
- ☐ Human development index.

### 7. Economic Geography

- ☐ World economic development: measurement and problems
- ☐ World resources and their distribution
- ☐ Energy crisis; the limits to growth
- ☐ World agriculture: typology of agricultural regions
- ☐ Agricultural inputs and productivity
- ☐ Food and nutrition's problems
- ☐ Food security; famine: causes, effects and remedies
- ☐ World industries: location patterns and problems
- ☐ Patterns of world trade.

### 8. Population & Settlement Geography

- ☐ Growth and distribution of world population
- ☐ Demographic attributes

- ☐ Causes and consequences of migration
- ☐ Concepts of over-under-and optimum population
- ☐ Population theories, world population problems and policies, social well-being and quality of life;
- ☐ Population as social capital
- ☐ Types and patterns of rural settlements
- ☐ Environmental issues in rural settlements
- ☐ Hierarchy of urban settlements
- ☐ Urban morphology
- ☐ Concept of primate city and rank-size rule
- ☐ Functional classification of towns
- ☐ Sphere of urban influence
- ☐ Rural-urban fringe
- ☐ Satellite towns
- ☐ Problems and remedies of urbanization
- ☐ Sustainable development of cities.

### 9. Regional Planning

- ☐ Concept of a region
- ☐ Types of regions and methods of regionalisation
- ☐ Growth centres and growth poles
- ☐ Regional imbalances
- ☐ Regional development strategies
- ☐ Environmental issues in regional planning
- ☐ Planning for sustainable development.

### 10. Models, Theories & Laws in Human Geography

- ☐ System analysis in Human geography
- ☐ Malthusian, Marxian and demographic transition models
- ☐ Central Place theories of Christaller and Losch
- ☐ Perroux and Boudeville
- ☐ Von Thunen's model of agricultural location
- ☐ Weber's model of industrial location
- ☐ Rostov's model of stages of growth
- ☐ Heart-land and Rimland theories
- ☐ Laws of international boundaries and frontiers

## PAPER - II

## Geography of India

### 1. Physical Setting

- ☐ Space relationship of India with neighbouring countries;
- ☐ Structure and relief
- ☐ Drainage system and watersheds
- ☐ Physiographic regions
- ☐ Mechanism of Indian monsoons and rainfall patterns



- ☐ Tropical cyclones and western disturbances
- ☐ Floods and droughts
- ☐ Climatic regions
- ☐ Natural vegetation, Soil types and their distributions.

## 2. Resources

- ☐ Land, surface and ground water, energy, minerals, biotic and marine resources, Forest and wild life resources and their conservation
- ☐ Energy crisis.

## 3. Agriculture

- ☐ Infrastructure: irrigation, seeds, fertilizers, power
- ☐ Institutional factors
- ☐ land holdings, land tenure and land reforms
- ☐ Cropping pattern, agricultural productivity, agricultural intensity, crop combination, land capability
- ☐ Agro and social-forestry
- ☐ Green revolution and its socio-economic and ecological implications
- ☐ Significance of dry farming
- ☐ Livestock resources and white revolution
- ☐ Aqua-culture
- ☐ Sericulture, Apiculture and poultry
- ☐ Agricultural regionalisation
- ☐ Agro-climatic zones
- ☐ Agro-ecological regions.

## 4. Industry

- ☐ Evolution of industries
- ☐ Locational factors of cotton, jute, textile, iron and steel, aluminium, fertiliser, paper, chemical and pharmaceutical, automobile, cottage and agro-based industries
- ☐ Industrial houses and complexes including public sector undertaking
- ☐ Industrial regionalisation
- ☐ New industrial policy
- ☐ Multinationals and liberalisation
- ☐ Special Economic Zones
- ☐ Tourism including eco-tourism.

## 5. Transport, Communication & Trade

- ☐ Road, railway, waterway, airway and pipeline networks and their complementary roles in regional development

- ☐ Growing importance of ports on national and foreign trade
- ☐ Trade balance
- ☐ Trade Policy
- ☐ Export processing zones
- ☐ Developments in communication and information technology and their impacts on economy and society
- ☐ Indian space programme.

## 6. Cultural Setting

- ☐ Historical Perspective of Indian Society
- ☐ Racial linguistic and ethnic diversities
- ☐ Religious minorities
- ☐ Major tribes, tribal areas and their problems
- ☐ Cultural regions
- ☐ Growth, distribution and density of population
- ☐ Demographic attributes: sex-ratio, age structure, literacy rate, work-force, dependency ratio, longevity
- ☐ Migration (inter-regional, interregional and international) and associated problems
- ☐ Population problems and policies
- ☐ Health indicators.

## 7. Settlements

- ☐ Types, patterns and morphology of rural settlements
- ☐ Urban developments
- ☐ Morphology of Indian cities
- ☐ Functional classification of Indian cities
- ☐ Conurbations and metropolitan regions
- ☐ Urban sprawl
- ☐ Slums and associated problems
- ☐ Town planning; Problems of urbanisation and remedies.

## 8. Regional Development & Planning

- ☐ Experience of regional planning in India
- ☐ Five Year Plans
- ☐ Integrated rural development programmes
- ☐ Panchayati Raj and decentralised planning
- ☐ Command area development
- ☐ Watershed management
- ☐ Planning for backward area, desert, drought-prone, hill tribal area development
- ☐ Multi-level planning
- ☐ Regional planning and development of island territories.

## 9. Political Aspects

- ☐ Geographical basis of Indian federalism
- ☐ State reorganisation
- ☐ Emergence of new states
- ☐ Regional consciousness and inter-state issues
- ☐ International boundary of India and related issues
- ☐ Cross border terrorism
- ☐ India's role in world affairs
- ☐ Geopolitics of South Asia and Indian Ocean realm.

## 10. Contemporary Issues

- ☐ Ecological issues: Environmental hazards: landslides, earthquakes, tsunamis, floods and droughts, epidemics

- ☐ Issues related to environmental pollution
- ☐ Changes in patterns of land use
- ☐ Principles of environmental impact assessment and environmental management
- ☐ Population explosion and food security
- ☐ Environmental degradation
- ☐ Deforestation, desertification and soil erosion
- ☐ Problems of agrarian and industrial unrest
- ☐ Regional disparities in economic development
- ☐ Concept of sustainable growth and development
- ☐ Environmental awareness
- ☐ Linkage of rivers
- ☐ Globalisation and Indian economy





## GEOGRAPHY OPTIONAL EXPERT FOR UPSC



*by:* **Prince Mishra**

- ❑ Prince Mishra, a renowned UPSC faculty, specializes in Geography for both Optional and GS
- ❑ He has 10+ years of experience in mentoring aspirants.
- ❑ His in-depth subject expertise and simplified teaching approach have helped students scoring 300+ in Geography Optional.
- ❑ A B.Tech and LLB graduate, he is known for his student-centric pedagogy and exam-focused training.

## STUDENT'S TESTIMONIALS



**YASHARTH SHEKHAR**

**AIR 12, CSE 2023)**

I thank Prince Mishra Sir for his valuable contribution in helping me score 306 Marks in Geography Optional. His constant support and feedback really helped me a lot.

**CHANDRAKANT BAGORIA**

**(AIR 75, CSE 2022)**

I am grateful for the continuous support of Prince Sir. Enrolling in his Geography Optional Test Series has been a valuable learning experience and his phone calls have been a great source of stress relief in my preparation. Prince Sir was always available whenever I needed, this is the best thing about having a mentor.



# GEOGRAPHY Q&A

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