ClearIAS Prelims cum Mains Course Study Plan





ClearIAS

Creating leaders and toppers since 2012

The ClearIAS Story

In a small village in India, there was a young man whose aspirations stretched well beyond the ordinary. His name was Alex Andrews George.

Alex believed that India needed the best brains in the country in leadership positions for the nation to prosper into greatness. By leadership positions, he meant not only politicians but also social entrepreneurs and bureaucrats like IAS, IPS, and IFS officers.

However, he saw many deserving candidates finding it difficult to crack the UPSC Exam intended to select IAS, IPS, and IFS officers. This was because of various reasons including the lack of proper guidance and unavailability of quality coaching at affordable fees.

To solve this problem, Alex Andrews George founded ClearIAS as an online learning platform in 2012. An offline wing was added later.

ClearIAS provided thousands of online study materials and guidance articles free of cost. The fees charged by ClearIAS for the top-quality classes, mock exams, and personal mentorship were less than one-third of the fees charged by traditional coaching institutes.

Very soon, ClearIAS broke barriers in the UPSC exam preparation. Aspirants from across India started learning from the platform.

Now, more than 1 million aspirants learn from the ClearIAS website and apps every month. ClearIAS continue to help thousands of students become leaders including many IAS, IPS, and IFS officers.

Our mission

Create Leaders of Tomorrow.



Make the world a better place.

CALL US

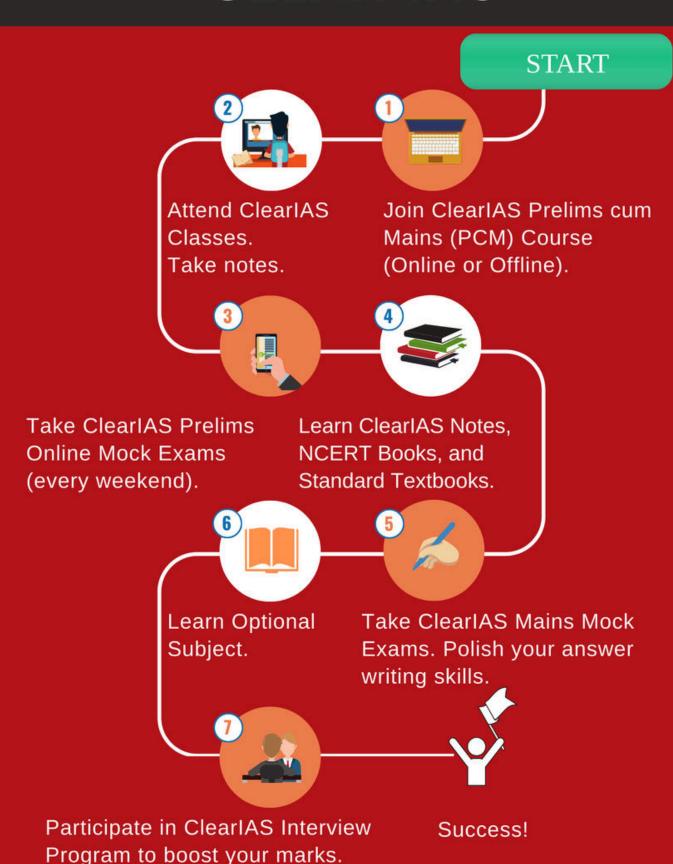








Road Map to CLEAR IAS



www.clearias.com

Join Now

Do you know?

- According to a study by the National Institute of Education, well-organized lessons can reduce learning time by up to 25%.
- Research from the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) suggests that the use of multimedia in teaching can reduce the time required to grasp complex concepts by 20-30%.
- A report by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) indicates that students following structured study plans can improve their study efficiency by 30%.

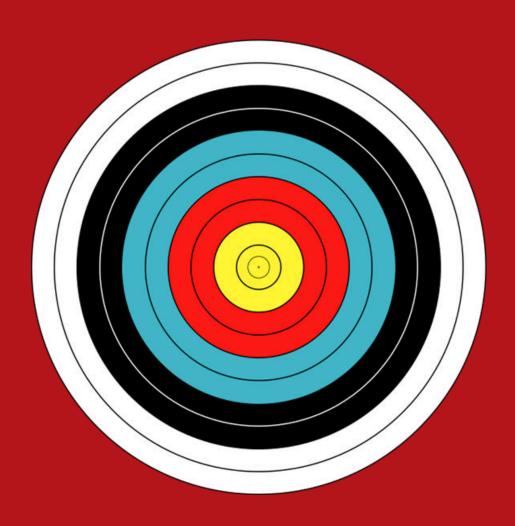
Do you know?

- Aspirants preparing for the UPSC Civil Services Examination (CSE) need to study more than 15 subjects like History, Geography, Indian Polity, Indian Economy, Current Affairs etc.
- Textbooks for each of these subjects run 800-1000 pages.
- In such a case, completing the UPSC CSE syllabus through textbooks takes a lot of time (many years!).
- That's why, at ClearIAS, well-organised video classes are our priority item!
- ClearIAS's video-first approach will help you cover the UPSC CSE syllabus topics faster!

8 Tools Recommended by ClearIAS for PCM Students to Achieve Success

- First Tool: ClearIAS PCM Program Video Classes by Expert Faculties
- **Second Tool:** Your own handwritten self-notes as the summary of ClearIAS video classes
- Third Tool: ClearIAS Prelims Test Series
- Fourth Tool: ClearIAS UPSC CSE Previous Year UPSC CSE Question Paper Re-Take Exams
- Fifth Tool: NCERT Text Books
- Sixth Tool: Standard Text Books
- Seventh Tool: ClearIAS Study Materials in PCM Program (PDF)
- Eighth Tool: ClearIAS Online Study Materials in website, app, and social media

8 Tools Recommended by ClearIAS for PCM Students to Achieve Success



Cover the core resources first!

Important Note:

- Our academic approach will be a mix of recorded classes and live classes. Recorded classes will serve as the core pillar for all batches.
- All students are recommended to purchase 15+
 notebooks (one for each subject) and prepare
 self-notes for each subject based on the
 recorded class videos. ClearIAS Mentors will
 guide you in this aspect.
- For best results, the preparation of self-notes should ideally be completed within the first three months. This can be easily achieved if an aspirant studies eight hours a day.
- There will be a ClearIAS online prelims test every Sunday based on the ClearIAS study plan.
- Students' mentorship will be primarily based on their ClearIAS mock exam scores. Try to be consistent with your mock exam practice.

Important Note:

- ClearIAS methods are unique. Our approach will help you cover the entire syllabus systematically in a short span of time.
- We intend to help you crack the UPSC CSE in your next attempt.
- In addition to the recorded classes, we will also conduct live classes.
- For example, there will be live classes for current affairs every Saturday.
- We will inform students through app notifications and WhatsApp messages whenever new live classes are scheduled.
- As as student, your priority task is to create handwritten-notes based on recorded and live classes.
- Your success = 50 % Your Efforts + 50 % The Systems and Processes You Follow.



Study Plan (Before UPSC CSE Prelims)

1-3 Months:

- Watch ClearIAS video classes of Prelims cum Mains (General Studies) and Prepare self-notes for each subject.
- You should also take weekly ClearIAS Prelims Mock Exams.

3-6 Months:

- Finish the Optional Subject and prepare self-notes. Revise self-notes of General Studies.
- You should also take weekly ClearIAS Prelims Mock Exams.

6-9 Months:

- Practice Previous Year UPSC Question Papers.
- You should also take weekly ClearIAS Prelims Mock Exams.

9-12 Months:

- Revise NCERT text books and standard textbooks. Revise self-notes of General Studies.
- Continue to take weekly ClearIAS Prelims Mock Exams.

By this time, you will have covered both Prelims and Mains topics. Additionally, you will be ready to crack the UPSC CSE Prelims.



Study Plan (Before UPSC CSE Mains)

12-15 Months:

- Go through ClearIAS Syllabus Explainer notes and prepare self-notes for each subject.
- You should have basic material as well as value-addition material for each paper.
- You should also take weekly ClearIAS Mains Model Exams to polish your answer writing.

By this time, you will be ready to crack the UPSC CSE Mains.



Study Plan (Before UPSC CSE Interview)

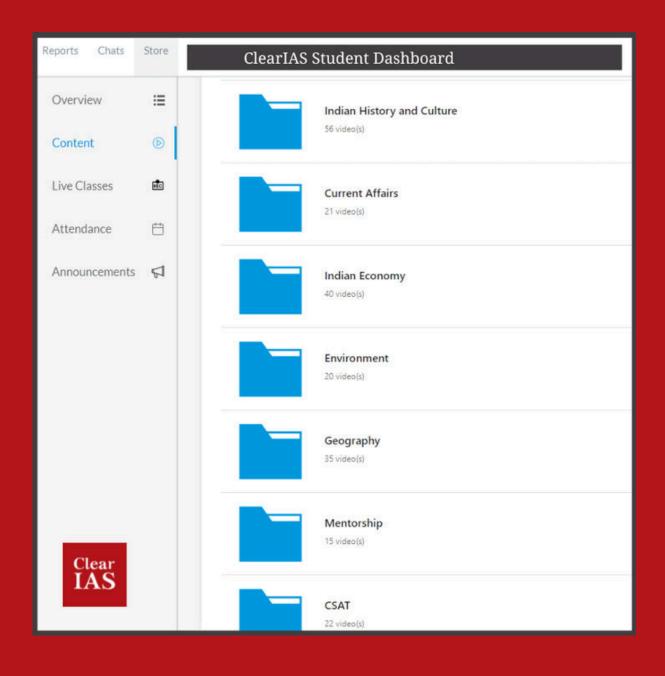
15-24 Months:

- Go through the ClearIAS Interview Marks Booster videos.
- Take ClearIAS Mock Interviews and DAF Analysis sessions.

By this time, you will be ready to crack the UPSC CSE Interview.



Make the most out of ClearIAS Course Contents





Advantages of ClearIAS Recorded Video Classes

- You get instant access to the full set of video classes which cover the entire UPSC CSE Prelims and Mains syllabus.
- You can watch the video classes unlimited times in the course duration.
- You are in full control of the classes.
- You can learn at your own pace.
- You can increase the speed of the lecture to 1.5X or 2X to finish topics faster.
- You can pause the lecture or restart the lecture if you wish.
- You can slow down the lecture to take down your selfnotes.
- You can learn from the comfort of your home.
- You can learn at your convenient time.
- The course contents are well-organised into subject-wise folders.
- The course provides unbeatable value at an unbeatable price.



ClearIAS PCM GS Course: What will you get?

- An all-in-one course that will help you systematically cover the entire syllabus of UPSC CSE Prelims and Mains.
- Instant access to the course upon payment of fees, even at midnight, so you can start learning right away!
- 500+ Expert Video Classes which help you master Prelims, Mains, and Interview Topics (in recorded format)
- Access to the latest current affairs classes and doubtclearing sessions
- Access to recorded classes if you miss any live class
- 1500+ Topic-Wise Study materials (PDF)
- Prelims Test Series (PTS)
- UPSC CSE Previous Year Questions Re-Take Exams
- Prelims Marks Booster (PMB)
- Intelligent Elimination Techniques (IET)
- CSAT Classes
- Current Affairs Classes
- Essay Classes
- Interview Marks Booster (IMB)
- Personal Mentorship to crack UPSC CSE



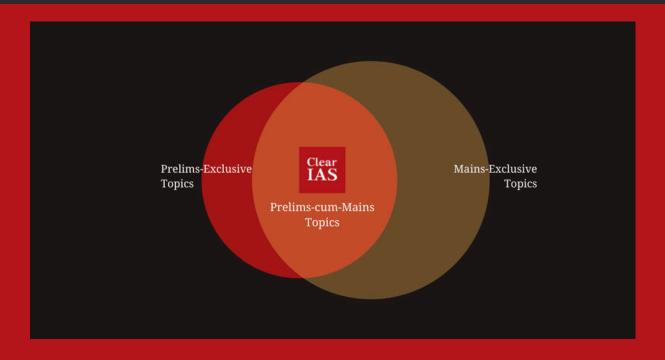
ClearIAS PCM GS Course: Subject-wise Classes Allocation

- 1. Success Techniques
- 2. History & Culture
- 3. Geography
- 4. Indian Polity
- 5. Indian Economy
- 6. Environment
- 7. Science & Tech
- 8. Current Affairs
- 9.CSAT
- 10. World History
- 11. Indian Society
- 12. International Relations
- 13. Internal Security
- 14. Disaster Management
- 15. Ethics, Integrity, and Aptitude
- 16. Essay
- 17. Interview

Note: Apart from the above-mentioned classes, you will also get automatic access to future current affairs classes and the latest updates on each subject (live/recorded) until the validity date.



How to approach UPSC CSE Prelims and Mains Syllabus



Prelims Exclusive Topics

1.CSAT

Prelims cum Mains Topics

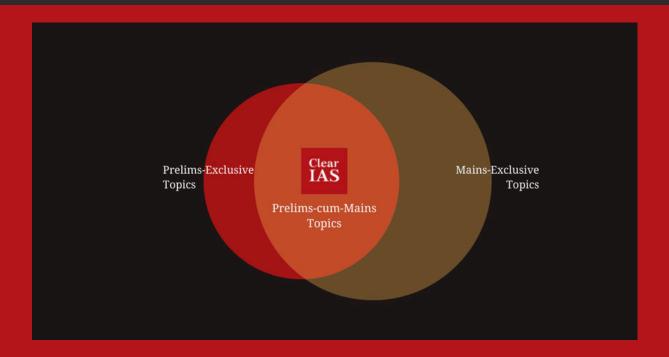
- 1. Indian History & Culture
- 2. Geography
- 3. Indian Polity
- 4. Indian Economy
- 5. Environment
- 6. Science & Tech
- 7. Current Affairs

Mains Exclusive Topics

- 1. World History
- 2. Indian Society
- 3. International Relations
- 4. Internal Security
- 5. Disaster Management
- 6. Ethics, Integrity, and Aptitude
- 7. Essay
- 8. Optional Subject



How to approach UPSC CSE Prelims and Mains Syllabus



- Ideally, you should start your UPSC CSE preparation with Mains Exclusive Topics and overlapping Prelims cum Mains Topics.
- You should cover all Mains-Exclusive Topics, including Optional Subject in the first six months of your preparation (ie. June to December).
- The last 6 months (ie. January to May) should be devoted only to overlapping Prelims cum Mains topics and Prelims-Exclusive Topics.



UPSC Syllabus - Civil Services Preliminary Exam

The Civil Services Preliminary exam comprises two compulsory papers of 200 marks each (General Studies Paper I and General Studies Paper II). The questions will be of multiple-choice, objective type. The marks in prelims will not be counted for the final ranking, but just for qualification for the main exam.

Sl No.	Paper	Total Marks	Duration
1	General Studies Paper I (GS)	200	2 hours
2	General Studies Paper II (CSAT)	200	2 hours

UPSC CSE Syllabus: Keywords Explanation

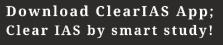
UPSC CSE candidates can click on each of the links given below to read articles about every topic mentioned in the UPSC Syllabus.

This keyword explainer project regarding the UPSC syllabus is one of the FREE initiatives of ClearIAS.

UPSC Syllabus for Paper-I – 200 marks

This objective paper is for two hours. There will be 100 questions. Marks of only this paper is counted to decide the toppers of the preliminary exam. The syllabus of GS Paper 1 is given below.









Start Learning



- Current events of national and international importance.
- History of India and Indian National Movement.
- <u>Indian and World Geography Physical, Social, Economic Geography of India and the World.</u>
- <u>Indian Polity and Governance Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.</u>
- <u>Economic and Social Development Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.</u>
- General issues on Environmental Ecology, Bio-diversity and Climate Change that do not require subject specialization.
- General Science.

UPSC Syllabus for Paper-II - 200 marks

This objective paper is for a duration of two hours. There will be 80 questions. Marks of this paper are counted to decide the toppers of the preliminary exam. This paper is only qualifying in nature. Aspirants just need to ensure that they score at least 33% marks in this paper. The syllabus of GS Paper 2 (CSAT) is given below.

- Comprehension.
- Interpersonal skills including communication skills.
- Logical reasoning and analytical ability.
- <u>Decision-making and problem-solving</u>.
- General mental ability.
- Basic numeracy (numbers and their relations, orders of magnitude, etc.) (Class X level).
- <u>Data interpretation (charts, graphs, tables, data sufficiency etc. Class X level)</u>.

The Commission will draw a list of candidates to be qualified for the Civil Service (Main) Examination based on the criterion of minimum qualifying marks of 33% in General Studies PaperII of Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination and total qualifying marks of General Studies Paper-I of Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination as may be determined by the Commission.





Prelims	General Studies Paper I	General Studies Paper II (CSAT)
Number of questions	100	80
Marks per question	2	2.5
Total Marks	200	200
Negative Marking	-0.66 marks for every incorrect answer. (ie. 1/3rd of the maximum marks for the question)	-0.83 marks for every incorrect answer. (ie. 1/3rd of the maximum marks for the question)
Significance	Counted for selection into the next stage (Mains). But not	Not counted for selection into the next stage (Mains). This paper is qualifying in







Prelims	General Studies Paper I	General Studies Paper II (CSAT)
	counted for the final ranking	nature. However, the candidate needs
	after Mains and Interview.	33% marks (67/200 marks)

UPSC Syllabus – Civil Services Mains Exam

A candidate's rank in the <u>UPSC Civil Service Exam</u> depends only on the mark scored in the Main and Interview. The main exam has 1750 marks while the interview has 275 marks.

The written examination (main) will consist of the following nine papers, but only 7 papers will be counted for the final merit ranking. Each paper is for 250 marks. Thus the total mark for the Main exam is 1750.

For the rest two papers, the candidate should secure the minimum marks prescribed by <u>UPSC</u> each year. For each of the qualifying papers, it is usually 25% i.e. 75/300 marks.

Mains	Subject	Marks
Paper-I	Essay	250





Mains	Subject	Marks
Paper-II	General Studies – I (Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society)	250
Paper-III	General Studies – II (Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International Relations)	250
Paper-IV	General Studies – III (Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Security and Disaster Management)	250
Paper-V	General Studies – IV (Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude)	250
Paper-VI	Optional Subject – Paper I	250
Paper-VII	Optional Subject – Paper II	250



Mains	Subject	Marks
Qualifying Paper A	Indian Language	300
Qualifying Paper B	English Language	300

1. Paper-I: (Essay) – 250 Marks

In Essay Paper, candidates may be required to write essays on multiple topics. They will be expected to keep close to the subject of the essay to arrange their ideas in an orderly fashion and to write concisely. Credit will be given for effective and exact expression.

2. Paper-2: (General Studies 1) – 250 Marks.

General Studies 1 Paper Syllabus for UPSC Civil Services Mains Exam consists of the below major areas: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society. The detailed syllabus is given below:

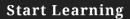
INDIAN CULTURE

• <u>Salient aspects of Art Forms, Literature and Architecture from</u> ancient to modern times.

MODERN INDIAN HISTORY









- Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present – significant events, personalities, and issues.
- The Freedom Struggle its various stages and important contributors /contributions from different parts of the country.
- <u>Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country.</u>

WORLD HISTORY

Events from the 18th century such as:

- industrial revolution
- world wars
- redrawal of national boundaries
- colonization
- decolonization
- political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc. their forms and effect on the society.

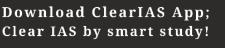
INDIAN SOCIETY

- Salient features of Indian Society
- Diversity of India
- Role of women and women's organization
- Population and associated issues
- Poverty and developmental issues
- Urbanization: their problems and their remedies
- Effects of globalization on Indian society
- Social empowerment: communalism, regionalism & secularism.

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

- Salient features of the world's physical geography
- <u>Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including</u> South Asia and the Indian subcontinent)
- Factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India)









Start Learning



- Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclones etc.
- Geographical features and their location
- Changes in critical geographical features (including water bodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes.

3. Paper-3: (General Studies 2) - 250 Marks

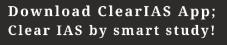
General Studies 2 Paper Syllabus for UPSC Civil Services Mains Exam consists of the below major areas: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International Relations. The detailed syllabus is given below:

POLITY

- Indian Constitution: Historical underpinnings, Evolution, Features, Amendments, Significant provisions and Basic structure
- Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States
- <u>Issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure</u>
- <u>Devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein</u>
- Separation of powers between various organs
- <u>Dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions</u>
- Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries
- Parliament and State Legislatures structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these
- <u>Structure, organization, and functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary</u>
- Ministries and Departments of the Government
- Pressure groups and formal/informal associations and their role in the Polity
- Salient features of the Representation of People's Act
- Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions, and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies
- Statutory, regulatory, and various quasi-judicial bodies

GOVERNANCE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE









Start Learning



- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation
- Development processes and the development industry the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities. institutional and other stakeholders
- Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes
- Mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections
- Issues relating to the development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources
- Issues relating to poverty and hunger
- Important aspects of governance
- Transparency and accountability
- e-governance applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential
- Citizen's charters
- Transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures
- Role of civil services in a democracy

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

- India and its neighbourhood relations
- Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests
- Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests
- Indian Diaspora
- Important International institutions, agencies and fora their structure, mandate
- India's soft power and cultural diplomacy

4. Paper-4: (General Studies 3) - 250 Marks

General Studies 3 Paper Syllabus for UPSC Civil Services Mains Exam consists of the below major areas: Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management. The detailed syllabus as provided by UPSC is as below:





General Studies 3 Paper Syllabus for UPSC Civil Services Mains

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- <u>Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment</u>.
- Inclusive growth and issues arising from it.
- <u>Government Budgeting</u>.
- Land reforms in India.
- Effects of liberalization on the economy
- Changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth.
- Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc.
- Investment models.

AGRICULTURE

- Major crops cropping patterns in various parts of the country
- <u>Different types of irrigation and irrigation systems storage</u>
- Transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints
- e-technology in the aid of farmers
- <u>Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices</u>
- <u>Public Distribution System- objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping</u>
- Issues of buffer stocks and food security
- Technology missions
- Economics of animal-rearing.
- Food processing and related industries in India scope and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- Developments and their applications and effects in everyday life
- Achievements of Indians in Science & technology
- Indigenization of technology and developing new technology.
- Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nanotechnology, bio-technology
- Issues relating to intellectual property rights.







Start Learning



BIODIVERSITY AND ENVIRONMENT

- Conservation
- Environmental pollution and degradation
- Environmental impact assessment

DISASTER AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT

<u>Disaster and disaster management</u>

INTERNAL SECURITY

- <u>Linkages between development and spread of extremism</u>.
- Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security.
- Challenges to internal security through communication networks
- Role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges
- Basics of cyber security
- Money laundering and its prevention
- Security challenges and their management in border areas
- Linkages of organized crime with terrorism
- Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate.

5. Paper-5: (General Studies 4) - 250 Marks

General Studies 4 Paper Syllabus for UPSC Civil Services Mains Exam consists of the below major areas: Ethics, Integrity, and Aptitude. Details of the syllabus as provided by UPSC is as below: This paper will include questions to test the candidates' attitude and approach to issues relating to integrity, probity in public life and his problem-solving approach to various issues and conflicts faced by him in dealing with society. Questions may utilise the case study approach to determine these aspects. The following broad areas will be covered:







General Studies 4 Paper Syllabus for UPSC Civil Services Mains

ETHICS AND HUMAN INTERFACE:

- Ethics and Human Interface
- Essence, determinants, and consequences of Ethics in human actions
- Dimensions of ethics
- Ethics in private and public relationships

HUMAN VALUES

- Human Values Lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators
- Role of family, society, and educational institutions in inculcating values

ATTITUDE

- Attitude: content, structure, function
- Attitude and its influence and relation with thought and behaviour
- Moral and political attitudes
- Social influence and persuasion

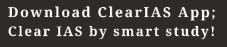
APTITUDE

- Aptitude and Foundational Values for Civil Service
- Integrity
- Impartiality and non-partisanship
- Objectivity
- Dedication to public service
- Empathy
- Tolerance and Compassion towards the weaker sections

EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

- Emotional intelligence concepts
- <u>Utilities and application of Emotional Intelligence in</u> administration and governance









MORAL THINKERS AND PHILOSOPHERS

• <u>Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and</u> the world

CIVIL SERVICE VALUES

- <u>Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration:</u> <u>Status and problems</u>
- Ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions
- <u>Laws, rules, regulations and conscience as sources of ethical guidance</u>
- Accountability
- Ethical governance
- Strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance
- Ethical issues in international relations and funding
- Corporate governance.

PROBITY IN GOVERNANCE

- Probity in Governance
- Concept of Public Service
- The philosophical basis of governance and probity
- Information sharing and transparency in government
- Right to Information
- Codes of Ethics
- Codes of Conduct
- Citizen's Charters
- Work culture
- Quality of service delivery
- Utilization of public funds
- Challenges of corruption

CASE STUDIES

Case Studies on the above issues.





www.clearias.com

ClearIAS: Trusted by Toppers

Top Rankers Who Thanked ClearIAS for Our Role in Their Success!





AIR-3 (CSM)



Meera K IAS AIR-6 (PTS)



Saranya Ramachandran IAS AIR-36 (CSM)















Jishnu J Raju IAAS AIR-132 (CSM)



Anoop Bijily IFS AIR-435 (PTS)



Deepak Dev Viswan IRS AIR-508 (CSM)



Angel Raj IPoS AIR-623 (PTS)







Dr T Shubhamangala IAS AIR-137 (PTS)





Hariram Shankar IPS AIR-145 (CSM)











and many more...

ClearIAS Courses: PCM: Prelims cum Mains; PTS: Prelims Test Series; MTS: Mains Test Series; IPM: Interview Personal Mentorship; CSM: ClearIAS Study Mateials

CALL US









ClearIAS Prelims cum Mains Course Study Plan

