

UPSC Mains General Studies Paper 4 Syllabus, Exam Pattern and Preparation

The Union Public Civil Services test, often known as the UPSC exam, is considered one of India's most challenging and recognised competitive exams, with a success rate of only 0.1 percent. This exam is used to recruit officers for three types of services: All India Services, Central Services, and State Services.

- The Civil Services Examination (CSE) is a national-level competitive examination held in India by the [Union Public Service Commission](#) (UPSC) for recruitment to various Indian government civil services.
- Candidates must meet the eligibility criteria of nationality, educational qualification, age limit, and number of attempts in order to determine if they are qualified.
- The selection procedure outlines the preliminary, mains, and interview stages of the selection process.

In the following article, we will go through the [UPSC Mains](#) General Studies Paper 4 Syllabus and Preparation for applicants. If you want to discover more about the IAS GS Paper 4 Syllabus and Study, including books, preparation tips, and the test format, keep reading.

Check [UPSC Mains Paper Analysis](#) here.

[Download Previous Year's IAS GS Paper 4 Questions here!](#)

IAS GS Paper 4 Syllabus

One of the nine subjective papers in the Civil Service Exams second stage is UPSC Mains General Studies-IV. The UPSC Civil Services Mains Exam takes place over the course of five days. The qualifying papers for the IAS Exam are English and the obligatory Indian language. Candidates must score at least 25% in these two to be considered for merit ranking based on the rest of the UPSC Mains tests and the interview.

Detailed below is the [UPSC Mains GS Paper 4 syllabus](#):

Ethics and Human Interface

The Essence of Ethics,
Determinants and
Consequences of Ethics in
Human Interaction

Dimensions of Ethics		
Ethics in private and public relationships		
Human Values – lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators		
Role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating moral and ethical values		
Attitude	Content, structure and function of attitude	
	Relation of attitude to thought and behaviour	
	Influence of attitude in thought and behaviour	
	Social influence and persuasion	
	Moral and Political attitudes	
	Aptitude	Integrity

Aptitude and foundational values of Civil Service		
Impartiality and non-partisanship		
Objectivity		
Dedication to public service		
Empathy, tolerance, and compassion towards the weaker sections of the society		
Emotional Intelligence	Concepts of emotional intelligence	
	Utility and application of emotional intelligence in administration and governance	
Contributions of Thinkers and Philosophers	Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and the world to the concepts of morality	
	Public/Civil Service Values and Ethics in Public Administration	Status and associated problems

Ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions		
Laws, rules, regulations and conscience as sources of ethical guidance		
Accountability and ethical governance		
Strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance		
Ethical Issues in international relations and funding		
Corporate governance		
	Probity in Governance	Concept of public service

Information sharing and transparency in government	
The philosophical basis of governance and probity	
Right to Information	
Codes of ethics	
Codes of Conduct	
Work culture	
Challenges of corruption	
Citizen's Charters	
Utilization of public funds	
Quality of service delivery	

IAS GS Paper 4 Exam Pattern

Candidates who will be taking the exam should familiarise themselves with the IAS GS Paper 4 Syllabus in advance. The preliminary exam consists of a general studies examination and a 400 marks general studies exam.

The UPSC Mains test will have various papers, one of which is the IAS GS Paper 4 Syllabus paper. The following is the exam pattern for the same:

UPSC Mains GS Paper 4 Exam Pattern

Papers for Merit		Marks
Paper V	General Studies IV: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ethics• Integrity• Aptitude	250 marks

- All of the questions are mandatory.
- The questions range in difficulty from 10 to 20 points, depending on the length of the response requested. The answers to the 10 mark questions must be written in 150 words, while the answers to the 20 mark questions must be written in 250 words.
- This paper will receive a total of 250 points.
- There are two types of questions:
- Direct questions about concepts that measure the candidate's understanding of ethical dilemmas and concepts related to integrity and aptitude (125 marks)
- Case studies that assess the applicant's ability to apply such concepts to scenarios involving the candidate and other stakeholders such as legislators, pressure groups, the general public, and others (125 marks)
- The nature of the questions varies greatly from year to year on this paper, which is the most varied of the four General Studies Papers. Candidates should familiarise themselves with the syllabus as well as the patterns of the previous years.

Check the detailed [UPSC Exam Pattern](#) here.

How to Prepare for the UPSC IAS GS Paper 4 Syllabus?

The following are some general preparation recommendations for the IAS general studies paper 4 that you should keep in mind. The key to getting good grades on this exam is to have a thorough understanding of the many subjects covered.

- It is critical to have a thorough understanding of the fundamentals in order to properly compose this paper. Acquire a working knowledge of the subject's most frequent terms.
- Skimming through vast volumes of text to retrieve the key pieces is a good practise. Instead of memorising these parts and answers, try absorbing the meaning and writing it down yourself.
- To keep your strategy focused and save time, avoid reading too many references on the same issue. Pay attention to well-known philosophers and authors, as well as their analyses of theories.
- The paper is also meant to assess your character, therefore the best approach to respond is to share your personal revelations, experiences, and beliefs. This will only be achievable if you incorporate these ideals into your daily routine. These are values that cannot be faked, therefore memorising and writing a response will still leave gaps for the examiners to determine whether you have the necessary qualifications for the job.
- By attentively reading the questions, you can gain a better understanding of the examiner's point of view. The question will reveal what the examiner is looking for in an answer, and the paper will be evaluated to determine the applicants' basic code of ethics, conduct, and perceptions of work culture.
- Every chapter you read will have certain keywords that will help you understand the subject's concepts. It is critical to incorporate these keywords into your response in order to make it short while also enriching it with the appropriate terms and tactics.
- Examine past year question papers dating back to 2013 to obtain a good overview of the types of questions that are regularly asked, as well as the themes that are frequently stressed.

- Spend more time composing replies and polishing them rather than reading. In this paper, the same response can be expressed in several alternative ways, and it is up to the candidates to decide which format is better. Furthermore, the more you practise writing the answers, the easier it will become to follow the case studies.
- Make your own list of examples from everyday life and current events from many fields.
- Candidates who can draw diagrams to better show their answers will have an advantage over others, therefore this is a viable and beneficial practise to include.

Important Topics for the UPSC General Studies Paper 4

- The fundamental notions of ethics—definitions and terminologies—are crucial.
- Ethics' determinants and consequences on human conduct.
- Different aspects of ethics—study this part thoroughly to gain a thorough understanding.
- The role of ethical ideals in private and public relations – research as many case studies as possible to back up your responses. You will be asked a number of questions that are based on this topic.
- IGNOU materials are best produced with human values in mind.
- Philosophers, teachers, administrators, and reformers have autobiographies and biographies written about their lives and teachings, with an emphasis on Indian reformers. These will teach you a few good quotes.
- Family, society, and educational institutions all play a role in the development of ethical sense and ideals.
- The form and function of ethical conceptions, as well as their influence on the individual's mental process and behaviour, are covered in NCERT psychology texts for grades XI and XII.
- Morality, political attitudes, and social impact, as well as their connections to ethics
- For civil service candidates, the concepts of attitude, integrity, and impartiality are crucial.
- The concept of emotional intelligence, as well as its application, management, and governance.
- Ethics in public administration is a crucial portion that should be well prepared for this paper, including ethical difficulties and concerns in administration, conscience, rules and regulations as sources of ethical guidance, and measures to promote governance's ethical ideals.
- Probity in governance refers to the concept of public service, as well as the philosophical foundations of governance and the concept of probity.
- Ethics codes, code of conduct, and a citizen's charter are all examples of citizen's charters.
- Workplace culture and corruption challenges.

Get more expert [tips to prepare for UPSC General Studies](#) here.

Best Books for UPSC IAS GS Paper 4 Syllabus

Because the study materials are restricted, you must prepare from any and all sources you come across. Magazines, biographies, films and podcasts, reports, articles, and the internet are all examples. The following are some examples of options you can use as examples:

Books	Author/ Publication
Ethics, Integrity & Aptitude	G. Subbarao
Psychology book Class XI & XII	NCERT
ARC 4th report	
Verghese Kurien autobiography	
Karma Yoga and his biography	Swami Vivekananda
Ethics in Public Administration	Patrick Sheeran
Ethics, Integrity, and aptitude	McGraw-Hill education (M.Karthikeyan)
Lexicon for ethics, integrity, and aptitude	Civil services chronicle
Experiment with Truth	Mahatma Gandhi
Citizen-Centric Administration	ARC Report

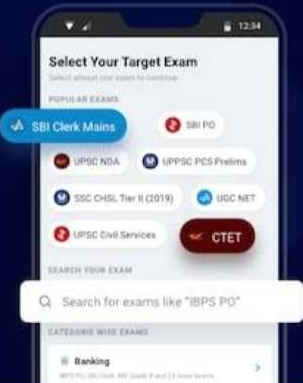
Check more [UPSC General Studies Books List](#) here.


This was all there was to know about the UPSC Exam? Check all about the information on our website. I hope you went over everything in order to prepare for the next UPSC exam. You can also look into it. You can use our [Testbook App](#) to keep yourself up to date with the newest information and study materials for your exam preparation.

यदि आप यूपीएससी सिविल सर्विसेज परीक्षा की तैयारी हिंदी माध्यम में कर रहे हैं, तो नीचे स्क्रॉल करें और यूपीएससी परीक्षा से सम्बंधित लेखों को हिंदी में पढ़ें।

यूपीएससी सिविल सर्विसेज परीक्षा सम्बंधित लेख

यूपीएससी सिविल सर्विसेज भर्ती	यूपीएससी आईईएस भर्ती	यूपीएससी प्रीलिम्स सिलेबस	यूपीएससी प्रीलिम्स स्ट्रेटजी
यूपीएससी मेन्स जीएस पेपर 1 सिलेबस	यूपीएससी मेन्स जीएस पेपर 2 सिलेबस	यूपीएससी मेन्स जीएस पेपर 3 सिलेबस	यूपीएससी मेन्स जीएस पेपर 4 सिलेबस





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