

EXAM SYLLABUS

UPSC Civil Services Prelims Syllabus 2026

2 subjects · 14 topics

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2026 syllabus covers General Studies Paper I and CSAT Paper II. Prioritize Polity, Environment, Modern History, and Current Affairs. Understand weightage and important topics for effective preparation.

WHAT TO STUDY FIRST

Begin your preparation by thoroughly understanding the syllabus for both General Studies Paper I and CSAT Paper II. Prioritize subjects with higher weightage such as Polity, Environment, Modern History, and Current Affairs, as these often form the backbone of the Prelims exam. Simultaneously, dedicate consistent practice to CSAT Paper II, focusing on comprehension and logical reasoning, as it is a qualifying paper. Utilize the recommended books and previous year's question papers to grasp the exam pattern and important topics.

SUBJECT-WISE SYLLABUS

01 Paper I – General Studies

7 topics · 200 Marks

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

- NCERTs (Classes 6-12)
- Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth
- India's Struggle for Independence by Bipan Chandra
- A Brief History of Modern India by Rajiv Ahir (Spectrum)
- Indian Art and Culture by Nitin Singhania

- 1 Current Events of National & International Importance
- 2 History of India and Indian National Movement
- 3 Indian & World Geography – Physical, Social, Economic
- 4 Indian Polity and Governance – Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues
- 5 Economic and Social Development – Sustainable Development, Poverty, Demographics, Inclusion
- 6 General Science & Technology
- 7 Environment, Ecology & Biodiversity

02 Paper II – Civil Services Aptitude Test (CSAT)

7 topics · 200 Marks (Qualifying)

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

- NCERTs (Class X level for Numeracy)
- RS Aggarwal for Quantitative Aptitude
- Verbal and Non-Verbal Reasoning by R.S. Aggarwal
- Analytical Reasoning by M.K. Pandey

- 1 Comprehension
 - 2 Interpersonal Skills & Communication Skills
 - 3 Logical Reasoning & Analytical Ability
 - 4 Decision-Making & Problem-Solving
 - 5 General Mental Ability
 - 6 Basic Numeracy (Class X level)
 - 7 Data Interpretation (Class X level)
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2 subject(s), 14 topics listed above. Verify critical details with the official exam notification before applying.