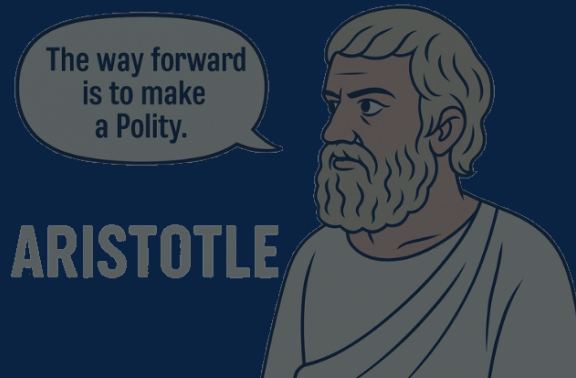
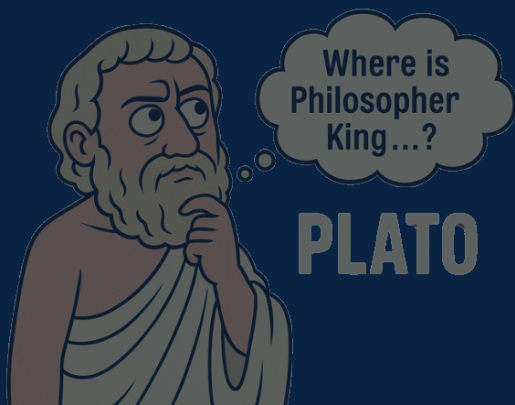


PSIR OPTIONAL · ADMISSIONS OPEN

PSIR Optional Foundation Batch

The lens through which a civil servant reads the State, the Constitution, the citizen and the world.

THE INTERLOCUTORS YOU WILL SIT WITH



BATCH COMMENCES

9 July 2026

REPORTING TIME

11:30 AM

VENUE

ALS IAS · Karol Bagh, Delhi



PREPARED & MENTORED BY

Swetank Pandey

Faculty & Author — Political Science & International Relations

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A NOTE BEFORE YOU BEGIN

PSIR from Zero

Long before there were states, there were stories. Homo sapiens never won the earth by sharper claws or stronger limbs, but by learning to believe, together, in things that live only in shared imagination — gods, nations, money, rights, that fragile fiction we call "the people." Political science is the study of these collective inventions: how a sheet of paper called a Constitution binds a billion strangers, why one command is obeyed as legitimate and another resisted as tyranny, how power borrows the language of justice.

To choose PSIR is to accept a burden — that of taking democracy seriously rather than merely consuming it. You will sit with Plato and Kautilya, Gandhi and Ambedkar — living interlocutors quarrelling over questions India cannot escape: Who should rule? What do we owe one another? Where does freedom end and authority begin? Paper I gives you political theory and the Indian state; Paper II, comparative politics and India's place in a disordered world.

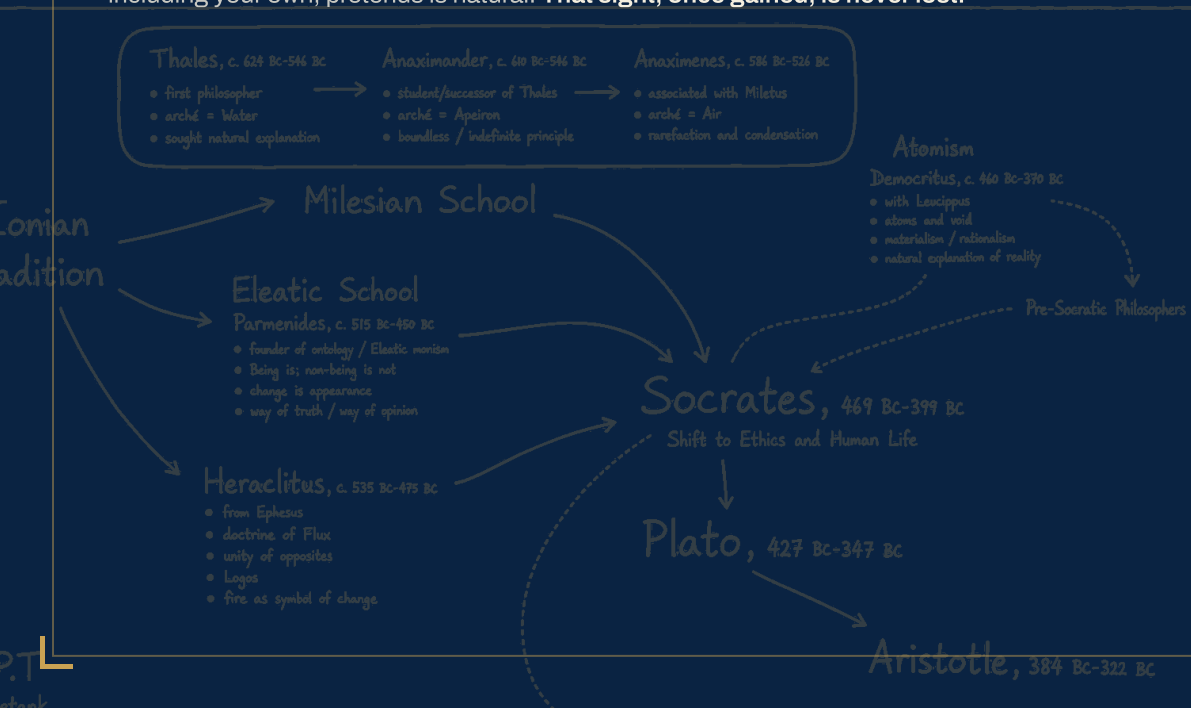
And the ledger is kind. Yet do not mistake the optional for an echo of GS: the remaining fifth has no GS home at all. It is pure theory, the irreducible spine — and precisely what earns the marks.

54-56%
 overlap with **GS Paper II** —
 more than the other three GS
 papers combined.

Roughly **four of every five**
 PSIR lessons double as
 General Studies preparation —
 history, ethics, economy,
 security.

You are already what Amartya Sen called the *argumentative Indian* — heir to a civilisation that has argued over justice, duty and power for millennia.

So begin — though never from zero. To take it up is not to start from scratch but to formalise a fluency you were born into — a head start no other subject offers. You are learning to see the invisible architecture of order and obedience that every society, including your own, pretends is natural. **That sight, once gained, is never lost.**



Four Chronic Issues

Why most PSIR preparation stalls — and what the Foundation Batch does differently.

01 Incomplete Syllabus Coverage

PSIR has a famously extensive syllabus. Topics get rushed, then dropped. A fixed schedule is non-negotiable.

02 Section B of Paper I, an Afterthought

Federalism in flux, judicial review, electoral reforms, caste & politics — asked every year, skipped in class.

03 Comparative Politics, Forgotten

Paper II Section A seldom gets airtime. Aspirants face theoretical questions with no scaffolding.

04 Material Overload, Writing Drought

Students drown in reading, never revise, never write. The stamina for 19 answers in 6 hours is never built.



The Foundation Batch Answer

Schedule-First

Fixed 115-session planner, weekly targets.

Theory + Debate

Every thinker tied to a live controversy.

Answer-Writing

Mocks, model answers, peer review weekly.

Curated Reading

One sequenced, PYQ-mapped stack.

115 SESSIONS

345 TEACHING HOURS

15-YEAR PYQ MAP

WEEKLY MOCK + REVIEW

The Syllabus, Segregated

Paper I + Paper II — every unit, every section, every keyword.

PAPER I — POLITICAL THEORY & INDIAN POLITICS

SECTION A — POLITICAL THEORY

1. Political Theory
2. Theories of the State
3. Justice
4. Equality & Liberty
5. Rights
6. Democracy
7. Concept of Power
8. Political Ideologies
9. Indian Political Thought
10. Western Political Thought

SECTION B — INDIAN GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

1. Indian Nationalism
2. Making of the Constitution
3. Salient Features of the Constitution
4. Principal Organs of Government
5. Grassroots Democracy
6. Statutory Institutions
7. Federalism
8. Planning, Caste, Party System & Movements

PAPER II — COMPARATIVE POLITICS & IR

SECTION A — COMPARATIVE POLITICS & INT'L POLITICS

1. Comparative Politics
2. State in Comparative Perspective
3. Politics of Representation
4. Globalisation
5. Approaches to IR
6. Key Concepts in IR
7. Changing International Political Order
8. International Economic System
9. United Nations
10. Regionalisation
11. Contemporary Global Concerns

SECTION B — INDIA AND THE WORLD

1. Indian Foreign Policy
2. India and NAM
3. India and South Asia
4. India and the Global South
5. India and Global Centres of Power
6. India and the UN System
7. India and the Nuclear Question
8. Recent Developments

CRIMEA
MEDITERRANEAN

The Detailed Topic Map

Every sub-topic, keyword and PYQ mapped — the complete micro-syllabus. Scan to join Telegram and request it.

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SCAN · JOIN TELEGRAM

Your 115-Session Roadmap

Faculty **Swetank Pandey (SP)** · 115 sessions × 3 hours = **345 teaching hours**. Session numbers S1–S115; PYQ embedded in every session; flagship thinkers carry a two-session deep dive (×2). *Orientation (S0): strategy & PYQ-trend mapping — pre-course, not counted.*

PART 1 · PAPER I-A POLITICAL THEORY & THOUGHT · S1–S44

Western Political Thought S1–S16

Plato (×2), Aristotle (×2), Machiavelli, Hobbes (×2), Locke, Hegel (×2), Marx (×2), J.S. Mill (×2), Gramsci, Hannah Arendt

Ideologies S17–S22

Ideology & debates, Liberalism, Socialism, Marxism, Fascism, Feminism

Political Theory & Theories of the State S23–S31

Political Theory (×2), Liberal, Neo-Liberal, Marxist, Pluralist, Post-colonial, Feminist, Misc theories

Democratic Governance S32–S35

Justice, Liberty, Equality, Rights

Democracy S36 · Power S37

Indian Political Thought S38–S44

Manu, Kautilya & Dharmashastra, Sri Aurobindo, M.N. Roy, Gandhi (×2), Ambedkar, Sir Syed

PART 2 · PAPER I-B INDIAN GOVT & POLITICS · S45–S63

Indian Nationalism & National Movement S45–S48

Constitutionalism to Mass Satyagraha, Militant & Revolutionary, Peasants & Workers, Perspectives

Salient Features of the Constitution S49–S52

Constitution, Preamble, FR & Duties, Directive Principles

Principal Organs of Government S53–S57

Union organs, Bureaucracy & Weber, Legislature, State organs, Judiciary — Activism & PIL

Grassroots Democracy S58–S60

PRI & Municipalities, 73rd & 74th Amendments, Grassroot movements

Statutory & Federalism S61 · Planning S62 · Party System & Movements S63

PART 3 · PAPER II-A COMPARATIVE POLITICS & IR · S64–S93

Comparative Politics — Nature & Approaches S64–S65

Political Economy & Sociology, Limitations & other approaches

Evolving State S66 · Representation S67–S68 · Globalisation S69

Approaches to IR S70–S71

Realism; Liberalism & Marxism (IR)

Game Theory S72 · Functionalist & System S73 · Global Dynamics S74

PART 3 (CONT.) & PART 4 · PAPER II-B INDIA & THE WORLD · S83–S115

Key Concepts in IR S75–S77

National interest & Security, Balance of power & Collective security, World economy & Diplomacy

Changing International Political Order S78–S79

Superpowers & bipolarity, Arms race & Cold War

Global Crises S80 · NAM S81 · Post-Cold-War S82

Global Economic Order S83–S84

Bretton Woods & CMEA, NIEO & globalisation

United Nations S85–S86 · Regionalisation S87–S89

Vision, agencies & reforms; EU; ASEAN & APEC; SAARC & NAFTA

Contemporary Concerns S90–S92 · Security & Ideology S93

Democracy & HR, Environment & Gender, Terrorism

India's Foreign Policy — Evolution S94–S95 · Diplomatic Relations S96–S100

Foundations; Pakistan; Bangladesh & Nepal; Sri Lanka & Act-East; Cross-border

Global South S101–S102 · Global Powers S103–S106

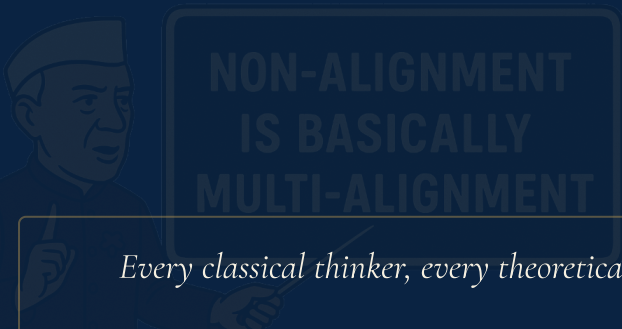
Africa & Latin America; USA; EU & Japan; China; Russia

UN System S107–S108 · Nuclear Question S109–S111

UNSC seat & peacekeeping; Weapons & NPT, CTBT, Defence

Recent Developments S112–S113 · Misc Global Politics S114–S115

Israel & West Asia, New world order; Bilateral & geopolitical doctrines



Every classical thinker, every theoretical concept, every contemporary debate — sequenced and delivered.

Inside this booklet

10 thinkers · 40 pages

01 Plato — Justice & the Forms

02 Aristotle — Citizenship

03 Machiavelli — Power & the State

04 Hobbes — The Leviathan

05 Locke — Rights & Property

06 Rousseau — The General Will

07 Mill — Liberty & Utility

08 Marx — Alienation & Class

09 Gramsci — Hegemony

10 Arendt — Power & Authority

PSIR Toppers from ALS IAS

CSE 2024 RESULTS



Anshul Bhatt
AIR 22 · 2024



Vishnu Shahi Kumar
AIR 31 · 2024



Subhadharshini M
AIR 83 · 2024



Nagendra Babu Kumar
AIR 160 · 2024



Ghogare Harshal Bhagwan
AIR 308 · 2024



Hardik Chandel
AIR 304 · 2024

ADMISSION & ENQUIRY OFFICE

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