

Syllabus of Indian Polity for UPSC Exam

Polity is an integral part of the UPSC civil services exam. Whether it is for the UPSC prelims or the UPSC mains exam, Indian polity is a vital part of the [UPSC syllabus](#). Even in the 2017 UPSC prelims exam, more than 20 questions were asked from the polity section. It is the subject from which most questions were asked. Political science and international relations is also a subject that you can opt as an optional subject. In this article, you will read about the syllabus of Indian polity for UPSC exam.

Indian Polity Syllabus for UPSC Prelims

Indian Polity and Governance: Constitution; Political System; Panchayati Raj; Public Policy; Rights Issues

Indian Polity Syllabus for UPSC Mains

The UPSC syllabus for General Studies Paper II encompasses the Indian polity section. The polity section syllabus is given here:

Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice:

- Indian Constitution – historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure
- Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein
- Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries
- Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions
- Parliament and State Legislatures – structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these
- Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies
- Structure, organization and functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary 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
- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation
- Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies

- 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
- Health, Education, Human Resources
- Development processes and the development industry the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders
- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to
- Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance-applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures
- Issues relating to poverty and hunger
- Role of civil services in a democracy

UPSC Syllabus for Polity Optional

You can download the UPSC optional syllabus for political science and international relations PDF.