How to Create a Perfect Study Schedule for UPSC Civil Services (IAS, IPS) Exam

Victor Growth

The **UPSC Civil Services Examination (CSE)** is one of the toughest and most prestigious exams in India. Cracking it requires **discipline, consistency, and a well-structured study plan**. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned aspirant, following a **strategic study schedule** can significantly improve your preparation for **IAS, IPS, and other civil services**.

In this guide, we'll help you **design the perfect study schedule** to cover the **Prelims, Mains, and Interview** stages effectively.

Step 1: Understand the UPSC Exam Pattern

1. Preliminary Examination (Prelims)

- **General Studies Paper-I** (Current Affairs, History, Geography, Polity, Economy, Environment, Science & Tech)
- **CSAT Paper-II** (Comprehension, Logical Reasoning, Basic Mathematics)

  Prelims is only a qualifying stage, but you must clear the cut-off to proceed to Mains.

2. Mains Examination (Written Descriptive Papers)

- **Paper A & B:** Compulsory Indian Language & English (Qualifying)
- **Essay Paper**
- **General Studies I – IV** (History, Geography, Polity, Governance, Ethics, Economy, International Relations, etc.)
- **Optional Subject (2 Papers)** – Public Administration, Geography, etc.
- **Total Marks:** 1750

3. Interview (Personality Test)

- Conducted for candidates who clear Mains.
- Tests personality, knowledge, and decision-making abilities.

Step 2: Set a Realistic Study Timetable

1-Year Study Plan for IAS, IPS Preparation

Timeframe	Focus Area
Months 1-3	NCERTs (6th-12th), Basic GS & Current Affairs
Months 4-6	Advanced GS, Optional Subject Selection
Months 7-9	Prelims Mock Tests, Mains Answer Writing
Months 10-12	Intensive Mains Preparation & Interview Guidance

---

Step 3: Daily Study Schedule for UPSC IAS, IPS Exam

Morning Routine (5:30 AM – 9:00 AM)

- □□♂ **Exercise & Meditation** (30 min) – Improves focus.
- □□ **Current Affairs (1.5 hrs)** – The Hindu, PIB, RSTV, Monthly Magazines.
- □□ **Static Subjects (2 hrs)** – Study History, Polity, Economy, etc.

Mid-Day Session (10:30 AM – 2:00 PM)

- □□ **Optional Subject (2 hrs)** – Detailed study with answer writing.
- ✍ **Mains Answer Writing (1 hr)** – Practice writing structured answers.

Evening Session (4:00 PM – 8:00 PM)

- □□ **Prelims MCQs Practice (2 hrs)** – Revise and attempt quizzes.
- □□ **Revision & Notes Making (2 hrs)** – Summarize important concepts.

Night Routine (9:30 PM – 11:00 PM)

- □□ **Watch UPSC Discussions (30 min)** – RSTV, AIR, The Hindu Editorial.
- □□ **Revise What You Studied (1 hr)** – Strengthen memory.

□□ **Sleep:** Ensure 6-7 hours of rest to maintain productivity.

Step 4: Weekly & Monthly Goals

□□ **Monday – Saturday:** Follow a strict study routine.
□□ **Sunday:** Revise the week’s topics, take full-length tests, and analyze mistakes.
□□ **Monthly:** Evaluate your progress and adjust weak areas.

Step 5: Focus on Prelims & Mains Together

- **Daily answer writing** for Mains.
- **Solve Prelims MCQs** (UPSC PYQs + Test Series).
- **Integrate Current Affairs** with GS subjects.

Victor Growth

Step 6: Mock Tests & Answer Writing Practice

- **Prelims:** Solve **one mock test per week** from October onwards.
- **Mains:** Write **one answer daily**, increase to **2-3 answers per day** later.
- **Interview:** Develop **communication skills** & improve **confidence**.

Conclusion

A **disciplined study schedule** is the key to **UPSC success**. Stick to your plan, stay consistent, and keep revising regularly. Institutes like **Victor Growth** provide expert guidance, test series, and mentorship to help you crack the **IAS & IPS exam** efficiently.

Stay focused, trust the process, and keep pushing forward!

download

Facebook

Instagram

Youtube

Victor Growth