

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

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.

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## 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.

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## Step 2: Set a Realistic Study Timetable

### 1-Year Study Plan for IAS, IPS Preparation

**Timeframe**  
**Months 1-3**

**Months 4-6**

**Months 7-9**

**Months 10-12**

**Focus Area**

NCERTs (6th-12th), Basic GS & Current Affairs

Advanced GS, Optional Subject Selection

Prelims Mock Tests, Mains Answer Writing

Intensive Mains Preparation & Interview Guidance

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## 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.
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## 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**.

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## 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!** ☑️

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