

Detailed Lecture Plan

Session by session, the complete map of what will be taught, in what order, and in how much depth.

100 core sessions

Both courses

+ 25 sessions

PSIR Praxis, in Magnus

PSIR Dynamics

Weekly, both phases

Faculty

Amit Pratap Singh

How to read this plan

PYQs are inside every session, not at the end. There is no separate PYQ module in this plan, and that is deliberate. Previous year questions, model answer discussion and writing practice are a built-in part of each class. Whatever you learn in a session, you also see how UPSC has asked it and how a good answer on it is written, in the same session.

Sessions 1 to 100 are common to Magnus and Crucible and cover the entire official UPSC PSIR syllabus.

Sessions P1 to P25 are PSIR Praxis, the application series available in Magnus. The weekly **PSIR Dynamics** class runs over and above these sessions and is not counted here.

The static portion of each session is fixed. The current affairs and examples inside each session keep getting refreshed as events move, so the plan stays current through the year.

Paper I — Political Theory & *Indian Politics*

SESSIONS 1–63

Module 1 · Orientation & Method

SESSION 1

NO. SESSION

WHAT WILL BE COVERED

1	Orientation & syllabus architecture	Structure of the PSIR syllabus and how the two papers connect; why PSIR as a 500-mark optional; PYQ trends of the last ten years; reading list and note-making method; the answer-writing framework this course will build from week one.
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NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
2	Plato I	Space and time; Socrates and the Sophists as influences; the eudaimonist school; theory of forms; philosophy and the ideal state; theory of justice in the Republic.
3	Plato II	Justice continued; scheme of education; communism of property and family; the philosopher king; Statesman and Laws; criticisms, including Aristotle and Popper's "closed society" charge; Plato as the father of political philosophy.
4	Aristotle I	Critique and evaluation of Plato; methodology: teleology and the golden mean; man as a political animal; concept and theory of the state; comparison with Plato.
5	Aristotle II	Citizenship; theory of slavery; revolution and its remedies; family, property and women; distributive justice; rule of law; classification of constitutions; the ideal and the best-practicable state.
6	Machiavelli	Time and space; the first modern political thinker; separation of politics from ethics and religion; dual standards of morality; The Prince; power, virtu and fortuna; Discourses on Livy and republicanism; evaluation.
7	Hobbes I	Space and time; the scientific-geometric method; human nature and psychology; the state of nature as a war of all against all; natural right and the laws of nature.
8	Hobbes II	Covenant and the Leviathan; absolute sovereignty; theory of law; religion under the sovereign; Hobbes as absolutist and as the first individualist; the contract compared with Locke and Rousseau.
9	Locke I	Two Treatises of Government and the critique of Filmer; natural law and natural rights; the state of nature; social contract and government by consent; majority rule; limited government and the right to resist.
10	Locke II	Theory of property and the labour theory of value; Macpherson's "possessive individualism" critique; law and liberty; toleration; Locke as the father of liberalism; evaluation.
11	J.S. Mill I	Reform in liberalism; from Bentham's utilitarianism to Mill's revision; higher and lower pleasures; On Liberty; the harm principle; self-regarding and other-regarding actions; liberty of thought, expression and action.
12	J.S. Mill II	Considerations on Representative Government; participation and its educative value; plural voting and proportional representation; Mill as a reluctant democrat; The Subjection of Women; evaluation.
13	Marx I	Context and influences: Hegel's dialectic, Feuerbach's materialism, French socialism and British political economy; religion as the opium of the people; alienation and its four dimensions.
14	Marx II	Historical materialism; mode of production; base and superstructure; class struggle; surplus value and exploitation; ideology and false consciousness; commodity fetishism; revolution and the dictatorship of the proletariat.

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
15	Gramsci	The Prison Notebooks; hegemony and domination; organic and traditional intellectuals; state and civil society; war of position and war of manoeuvre; passive revolution; counter-hegemony; comparison with Marx.
16	Hannah Arendt I	The Origins of Totalitarianism and its elements; The Human Condition: labour, work and action; vita activa and vita contemplativa; the public and the private realm; civic republicanism.
17	Hannah Arendt II	Power as acting in concert; power distinguished from force, strength, authority and violence; On Revolution; civil disobedience; the banality of evil; natality; criticisms.

Module 3 · Political Theory – Core Concepts

SESSIONS 18–30

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
18	Meaning & approaches I	Political theory, political science, political philosophy, political ideology and political thought; the normative–empirical debate; historical, philosophical and sociological approaches; Laslett and the “death” of political theory.
19	Meaning & approaches II	Textual and contextual approaches; behaviouralism and Easton’s intellectual foundation stones; criticisms; Popper and falsification; post-behaviouralism: relevance and action; the resurgence of political theory after Rawls.
20	Theories of State I	The state: features and types; state and government; state, society and civil society; sovereignty: monism (Bodin, Hobbes, Austin) and the pluralist attack (Laski); liberal and neo-liberal theories of the state.
21	Theories of State II	Marxist theories: instrumentalist and structuralist readings; post-colonial state: Hamza Alavi’s overdeveloped state, Myrdal’s soft state, Riggs’ prismatic society; Fanon, Nkrumah and the subaltern reading; feminist and anarchist theories of the state.
22	Power, authority & legitimacy	Faces of power: Dahl, Bachrach & Baratz, and Lukes’ three-dimensional view; hegemony and ideology; Weber’s types of authority; legitimacy and Habermas’ legitimation crisis.
23	Power — elite, feminist & postmodern views	Elite theory: Pareto, Mosca, Michels, Wright Mills; Dahl’s polyarchy and deformed polyarchy; feminist readings of power; Foucault: power/knowledge, disciplinary power and biopower; criticisms.
24	Justice I	Conceptions of justice; procedural and substantive justice; the utilitarian conception and its critique; Rawls: original position, veil of ignorance, the two principles, the difference principle, reflective equilibrium.
25	Justice II	Communitarian critiques: Sandel, Walzer, MacIntyre, Taylor; Rawls’ Political Liberalism and overlapping consensus; Nozick’s entitlement theory; Dworkin; Sen: the capability approach, niti and nyaya; global justice; feminist critiques (Okin).
26	Equality & liberty	Social, political and economic equality; formal and substantive equality; the equality–freedom relationship: Berlin’s two concepts, Tawney; Walzer’s complex equality; affirmative action: arguments and the Indian debates.

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
27	Rights & duties	Meaning and theories of rights: natural, legal and moral; will theory and interest theory; Hohfeld's classification; Laski on rights; civil, political and socio-economic rights; group rights; rights and duties.
28	Human rights	Philosophical foundations; universalism versus cultural relativism; the three generations of rights (Vasak); the UDHR and the two Covenants; human rights in an age of globalisation, security and technology.
29	Democracy I	Classical Athenian democracy to contemporary theory; procedural and substantive democracy; models: protective, developmental, elitist (Schumpeter) and pluralist (Dahl); Macpherson's reading.
30	Democracy II	Representative democracy and its discontents; participatory democracy (Pateman); deliberative democracy (Habermas; Fishkin's deliberative polling); Held's cosmopolitan democracy; populism, polarisation and democratic backsliding as current enrichment.

Module 4 · Political Ideologies & Debates

SESSIONS 31-40

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
31	Liberalism I	Ideology: meaning, features and functions; classical liberalism: individualism, natural rights and the limited state; utilitarianism; laissez-faire and social Darwinism (Spencer); the assumptions of classical liberalism.
32	Liberalism II	Modern liberalism: T.H. Green, Hobhouse and positive liberty; the welfare state and Keynes; neo-liberalism: Hayek's Road to Serfdom, Friedman, Nozick; the Washington Consensus linkage; classical versus modern liberalism.
33	Socialism	Socialism and capitalism; the utopians: Saint-Simon, Fourier, Owen; revolutionary versus evolutionary socialism; Bernstein's revisionism; Fabianism; syndicalism; guild socialism (Cole); social democracy.
34	Marxism I	Foundational concepts; orthodox Marxism: Kautsky and Plekhanov; Lenin: imperialism and the vanguard party; Rosa Luxemburg; Mao and the peasantry; Lukacs: class consciousness and reification.
35	Marxism II	The Frankfurt School: Horkheimer, Adorno, Marcuse's One-Dimensional Man; Habermas and communicative action; Althusser: ideological and repressive state apparatuses; the Miliband-Poulantzas debate on the capitalist state.
36	Feminism I	The waves of feminism; Wollstonecraft; de Beauvoir's The Second Sex; Friedan; the sex-gender distinction; patriarchy: Millett and Walby; liberal, radical and socialist feminism.
37	Feminism II	Postmodern feminism and Butler's performativity; black feminism and intersectionality (Crenshaw, hooks); the ethics of care (Gilligan); ecofeminism (Shiva and Mies); the public-private dichotomy; the personal is political.
38	Fascism & Gandhism	Fascism: irrationalism, ultranationalism, totalitarianism and the leader principle; neo-fascism and the far right today; Gandhism as ideology: satya, ahimsa, satyagraha, swaraj, trusteeship; the critique of modern civilisation; comparisons with liberalism and socialism.

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
39	Postmodernism & multiculturalism	Lyotard's incredulity towards metanarratives; Derrida's deconstruction; Foucault; post-Marxism: Laclau and Mouffe; multiculturalism: Kymlicka's group-differentiated rights, Parekh, Taylor's politics of recognition; critics: Okin and Barry.
40	The big debates	End of ideology: Bell, Lipset and the critique; Fukuyama's end of history and its reassessment; Huntington's clash of civilisations and its critics, including Sen and Said; the debates after the return of geopolitics.

Module 5 · Indian Political Thought

SESSIONS 41-51

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
41	Sources of Indian political thought	Dharmashastra, Arthashastra and the Buddhist canon as traditions; oral sources, edicts and chronicles; Dharma and Danda as organising concepts; matsyanyaya and the origin of kingship; the distinctiveness of Indian political thought.
42	Manu & the Mahabharata	Manusmriti: sources of law, varnashrama, rajdharma and danda; the gender and caste critique, including Ambedkar's; Shanti Parva: the genesis of the state and Bhishma on rajdharma.
43	The Buddhist tradition	Purushartha and the ethical life; the Digha Nikaya and the Mahasammata (the Great Elect); republican sanghas; the ethical state; Ashoka's dhamma as applied Buddhist statecraft.
44	Kautilya I	The Arthashastra and its rediscovery; saptanga theory: swami, amatya, janapada, durga, kosha, danda, mitra; rajamandala theory; the four upayas: sama, dana, bheda, danda.
45	Kautilya II	Shadgunya, the six-fold policy; espionage and the types of war; dharma and statecraft; Kautilya compared with Plato, Aristotle and Machiavelli; Kautilya as the first great realist; assessment and modern relevance.
46	Sir Syed & Sri Aurobindo	Sir Syed Ahmed Khan: the Aligarh movement, education and social reform, reading his politics in context; Sri Aurobindo: cultural and spiritual nationalism, critique of moderate politics, passive resistance, the ideal of human unity.
47	Gandhi I	Influences: the Gita, Ruskin, Tolstoy, Thoreau; satya and ahimsa; satyagraha: philosophy, technique and forms; Hind Swaraj and the critique of modern civilisation; swaraj in its four senses.
48	Gandhi II	The state and stateless democracy; oceanic circles; rights and duties; means and ends; trusteeship, swadeshi, bread-labour and sarvodaya; Ramrajya; Gandhi on nationalism; contemporary relevance.
49	Ambedkar I	Annihilation of Caste and the critique of the shastras; democracy as a mode of associated living; social endosmosis; conditions for the success of democracy; majority tyranny; constitutional morality; the critique of Gandhi's approach to caste.
50	Ambedkar II	States and Minorities and state socialism; representation, safeguards and the Poona Pact context; conversion and Navayana Buddhism; Buddha or Karl Marx; Ambedkar's constitutionalism; evaluation.

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
51	M.N. Roy	From communism to radical humanism; India in Transition; the critique of orthodox Marxism; New Humanism and the twenty-two theses; radical democracy and party-less politics; Roy and Gandhi contrasted.

Module 6 · Indian Government & Politics

SESSIONS 52–63

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
52	Indian nationalism I	Political strategies of the freedom struggle: constitutionalism to mass satyagraha; Non-Cooperation, Civil Disobedience, Quit India; militant and revolutionary movements; peasant and workers' movements; the struggle–truce–struggle versus pressure–compromise–pressure debate.
53	Indian nationalism II	Perspectives on the national movement: liberal-nationalist, Marxist (R.P. Dutt), socialist, radical humanist, the Cambridge school (Anil Seal), subaltern (Guha) and Dalit perspectives; assessment of Indian nationalism.
54	The Constitution I	Making of the Constitution: the Constituent Assembly, its composition and working; legacies of British rule; the Objectives Resolution and the Preamble; Granville Austin's reading: the Constitution as a social revolutionary document; social and political perspectives, including the critiques.
55	The Constitution II	Fundamental Rights and Duties; Directive Principles and the FR–DPSP relationship; the parliamentary system; the amendment procedure under Article 368; judicial review; the basic structure doctrine: Kesavananda Bharati and its afterlife.
56	Organs of the Union & States	Executive, Legislature, Supreme Court and High Courts: envisaged role and actual working; the PM and the cabinet system; parliamentary committees and the decline of deliberation; judicial activism and PIL; collegium versus NJAC; the Governor's role debates.
57	Federalism & regionalism	Constitutional provisions and the strong-centre design; changing centre–state relations; Sarkaria and Punchhi Commissions; fiscal federalism: the Finance Commission and the GST Council; Article 356 and S.R. Bommai; integrationist tendencies and regional aspirations; inter-state and river-water disputes.
58	Grassroots democracy	Panchayati Raj and municipal government; from Balwant Rai Mehta to L.M. Singhvi; the 73rd and 74th Amendments; PESA; funds, functions and functionaries; women in local government; urban governance; grassroots movements.
59	Statutory institutions & commissions	ECI, CAG, Finance Commission, UPSC, NCSC, NCST, NCW, NHRC, NCM and NCBC: envisaged role, actual working, autonomy and appointment debates; reform proposals for each institution.
60	Planning & economic development	Nehruvian and Gandhian perspectives on development; planning and the public sector; from the Planning Commission to NITI Aayog; the Green Revolution and its second-generation problems; land reforms and agrarian relations; liberalisation and the reforms of 1991.
61	Caste, religion & ethnicity	Caste in politics and the politicisation of caste (Kothari); sanskritisation and the dominant caste (Srinivas); Mandal and post-Mandal politics; religion, communalism and the secularism debates; ethnicity and identity politics; current linkages: census, reservation, mobilisation.

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
62	Party system & electoral behaviour	The Congress system and its decline (Kothari); national and regional parties: ideological and social bases; coalition politics and the federalisation of the party system; the fourth party system debate; pressure groups; trends in electoral behaviour; the changing socio-economic profile of legislators.
63	Social movements	Civil liberties and human rights movements; the women's movement in its phases; environmental movements: Chipko and the Narmada Bachao Andolan; farmers' and workers' movements; the new social movements framework; movements and party politics.

Paper II – Comparative Politics & *International Relations*

SESSIONS 64–100

Module 7 • Comparative Political Analysis

SESSIONS 64–70

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
64	Comparative politics — introduction	Nature and scope; why compare; comparative government versus comparative politics; traditional approaches: philosophical, historical and legal-institutional; limitations of the comparative method; Eurocentrism and its critique.
65	Modern approaches	The behavioural revolution in comparative politics; sociological, psychological, economic, quantitative and simulation approaches; the Marxist approach; the comparative method against the experimental and statistical methods.
66	System & institutional analysis	Easton's systems analysis: inputs, conversion, outputs and feedback; Almond's structural-functionalism and the input-output functions; Deutsch's communications model; from old institutionalism to the new institutionalisms: rational-choice, historical and sociological (March & Olsen).
67	Political economy & political sociology	The political economy perspective: Marxist, dependency (Frank) and public-choice variants; political sociology: political culture and Almond & Verba's Civic Culture; political socialisation; political modernisation and its critics.
68	The state in comparative perspective	The state in capitalist and socialist economies; advanced industrial versus developing societies; the developmental state (Johnson); post-colonial and overdeveloped state; from welfare state to competition state (Cerny); the regulatory state; the state under globalisation.
69	Representation & participation	Political parties: origins and typologies (Duverger, Sartori); catch-all and cartel parties (Kirchheimer; Katz & Mair); party systems; pressure groups: types and techniques; social movements and new social movements in advanced industrial and developing societies.
70	Globalisation	Dimensions of globalisation; the hyperglobalist, sceptic and transformationalist theses (Held & McGrew); responses from developed and developing societies; anti-globalisation movements; deglobalisation, protectionism and resilience as the current debate.

Module 8 · International Relations — Theory & Key Concepts

SESSIONS 71–78

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
71	Idealism & Realism I	What theory does in IR; levels of analysis: Waltz's three images; idealism: Wilson, the League and its collapse; the first great debate; precursors of realism: Thucydides and the Melian Dialogue, Kautilya, Machiavelli, Hobbes; the systems approach (Morton Kaplan).
72	Realism II	Carr's critique of utopianism; Morgenthau's six principles; structural realism (Waltz); offensive and defensive realism: Mearsheimer and Walt; the security dilemma (Herz); neoclassical realism; the realist reading of China's rise.
73	Liberalism in IR	The liberal traditions: commercial, republican and institutional; Mitrany's functionalism; Haas and neo-functionalism; liberal institutionalism and regime theory (Krasner, Keohane); Deutsch's security community; the logic of collective security.
74	Democratic peace & complex interdependence	Democratic Peace Theory: the Kantian roots, Doyle, Russett, and the critiques; Keohane & Nye's complex interdependence: multiple channels, absence of hierarchy, the reduced role of force; interdependence after the return of geopolitics.
75	Marxist, critical & English School approaches	Lenin's imperialism; dependency theory: Frank and Cardoso; Wallerstein's world-systems analysis; Gramscian and critical IR: Cox's "theory is always for someone and for some purpose"; the English School: Bull's anarchical society, international society, order versus justice.
76	Constructivism, feminism & post-structuralism	Wendt: "anarchy is what states make of it"; identity, norms and norm entrepreneurs (Finnemore); feminist IR: Tickner's reformulation, Enloe's "where are the women?"; post-structuralism and critical security studies; the fourth debate.
77	Key concepts I	National interest and its constructions; power: elements, tangible and intangible; hard, soft (Nye), smart and sharp power; geopolitics: Mackinder and Mahan; geoeconomics; the classification of states in the international system.
78	Key concepts II	Security: traditional and non-traditional; securitisation and the Copenhagen School (Buzan, Waever); human security (UNDP 1994); balance of power and balance of threat; deterrence and MAD; collective security versus collective defence; transnational actors; the world capitalist economy as a key concept.

Module 9 · International Politics — Order, Economy & Institutions

SESSIONS 79–83

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
79	The changing international political order	The Westphalian order; the rise of the superpowers; strategic and ideological bipolarity; the arms race, the nuclear threat and the Cold War; détente; NAM's aims, achievements and contemporary relevance (developed further in session 85); the collapse of the USSR; unipolarity and American hegemony; the crisis of the liberal order and the return of multipolarity.
80	The international economic system	Bretton Woods: the IMF and the World Bank; from GATT to the WTO; socialist economies and the CMEA; UNCTAD, the G77 and the Third World demand for a New International Economic Order; the Washington Consensus and structural adjustment; globalisation of the world economy and its discontents.

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
81	The United Nations & its reform	Envisaged role and actual record; the principal organs; specialised agencies: aims and functioning; peacekeeping, peacebuilding and the Responsibility to Protect; the financing and veto problems; the case for and models of UN reform.
82	Regionalisation of world politics	Theories of regionalism, old and new (Hettne); the EU: deepening, widening and Brexit; ASEAN and the ASEAN way; APEC; SAARC's stagnation; NAFTA to USMCA; regionalism versus multilateralism; BRICS, SCO and the G20 as current additions.
83	Contemporary global concerns	Democracy and human rights in world politics; environment: from Stockholm to the Paris Agreement; gender justice; terrorism: the definitional impasse and India's CCIT proposal; nuclear proliferation and the NPT regime under stress; migration, cyberspace and technology governance as emerging concerns.

Module 10 · India and the World

SESSIONS 84–99 · EXPANDED

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
84	Foundations of Indian foreign policy	Determinants: geography, history and culture, economic structure, domestic milieu, leadership and the external environment; institutions of policy-making: MEA, PMO, the NSC and the NSA, Parliament and the states; continuity and change: the Nehruvian consensus, Panchsheel, and the shifts after 1962, 1971, 1991 and 2014.
85	NAM, strategic autonomy & multi-alignment	India's contribution to NAM: Bandung 1955, Belgrade 1961 and the phases since; achievements and the criticisms; NAM after the Cold War; Non-Alignment 2.0; strategic autonomy and multi-alignment; India as the voice of the Global South.
86	India & South Asia	Neighbourhood policy from the Gujral Doctrine to Neighbourhood First; SAARC: past performance and future prospects; BIMSTEC and BBIN as working alternatives; SAFTA and the free-trade question; from Look East to Act East (taken further in session 93); impediments: river-water disputes, illegal cross-border migration, ethnic conflicts and insurgencies, border disputes.
87	India–Pakistan	The structure of the relationship; the wars and the Shimla Agreement, 1972; Kashmir and cross-border terrorism; the Indus Waters Treaty and its current strains; from the composite dialogue to the present freeze; trade and people-to-people links; India's policy options.
88	Bangladesh, Nepal & Bhutan	Bangladesh: the 1971 legacy, the Land Boundary Agreement 2015, the Ganga Treaty 1996 and the Teesta question, connectivity, and the current political transition; Nepal: the 1950 treaty debate, hydropower and the China factor; Bhutan: the special relationship and hydropower cooperation.
89	Sri Lanka, Maldives & Myanmar	Sri Lanka: the Tamil question and the 13th Amendment, the economic crisis and India's assistance, Hambantota and the Chinese presence, the fishermen issue; Maldives: the India First–India Out swings; Myanmar: the coup, insurgency spillover and India's balancing.
90	India–United States	From estrangement to strategic partnership; the civil nuclear deal, 2008; defence ties and the foundational agreements: LEMOA, COMCASA, BECA; trade and technology, including iCET and the friction points; the Quad and the China factor; the role of the diaspora.

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
91	India–China	From Panchsheel, 1954, to the 1962 war; the boundary question and the LAC; Doklam 2017 and Galwan 2020; the mechanisms: WMCC and corps commander talks; trade dependence and de-risking; the BRI and India's objections; the China–Pakistan axis; India's policy responses.
92	India–Russia & India–EU	Russia: defence, energy and space cooperation; the S-400 and the sanctions dilemma; the Ukraine war as a test of strategic autonomy; the INSTC; the EU: trade and the FTA negotiations, the Trade and Technology Council, Indo-Pacific convergence and the normative gap.
93	India–Japan & the Indo-Pacific	From Look East to Act East; Japan: the special strategic and global partnership, infrastructure cooperation and the high-speed rail project; the Quad's evolution; maritime security, SAGAR and IORA; ASEAN centrality and the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative.
94	India, West Asia & the Gulf	Energy security and the Gulf; the diaspora and remittances; Israel: defence and technology, I2U2; Iran: Chabahar and connectivity; the Gulf states: the CEPA with the UAE and Link West; the Abraham Accords context and IMEC; India and the Islamic world.
95	India & Africa	The development partnership: lines of credit, grants and capacity building through ITEC; energy, minerals and food security; the India–Africa Forum Summits; the African Union's entry into the G20 under India's presidency; the contrast with China's model.
96	India, Latin America & the WTO	South–South cooperation and IBSA; trade and energy ties with Latin America; India at the WTO: agriculture and public stockholding, the peace clause, TRIPS and the Covid waiver proposal, fisheries subsidies; the leadership role in the NIEO demand, then and now.
97	India & the UN system	India's record at the UN as a founding member; peacekeeping: among the largest cumulative troop contributors; the demand for a permanent seat in the Security Council; the G4 versus Uniting for Consensus; the L.69 group; reform diplomacy and the road ahead.
98	India & the nuclear question	Changing perceptions and policy: from disarmament advocacy to Pokhran I, 1974, and Pokhran II, 1998; the draft nuclear doctrine, 1999: no first use and credible minimum deterrence; the NSG waiver, 2008; membership of the MTCR, Wassenaar Arrangement and Australia Group; the NPT and CTBT stance; the new doctrinal debates.
99	Recent developments in Indian foreign policy	India's positions on Afghanistan after 2021, Iraq and the West Asian crises; the Ukraine war and Operation Ganga; the Gaza conflict and India's balancing; growing relations with the US and Israel; minilaterals: I2U2 and IMEC; supply-chain resilience; the G20 presidency and the Voice of Global South Summits; the vision of a new world order.

Module 11 • Grand Consolidation

SESSION 100

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
100	Grand consolidation & Mains strategy	The complete syllabus mapped in one sitting; a micro-revision plan; how to use the test series and PSIR Dynamics in the last ninety days; the final Mains roadmap.

Magnus addition — *PSIR Praxis*

SESSIONS P1–P25 · THE APPLICATION SERIES · AVAILABLE IN MAGNUS

What Praxis is

Praxis teaches no new syllabus. Every Praxis session is an application of the hundred core sessions: it takes what you have already learnt and shows you where else in the written examination it earns marks. The exact source sessions are shown against each class, so the link between the core course and Praxis stays fully visible.

Arena I · Indian Society through the PSIR Lens

SESSIONS P1–P4

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
P1	Unity, diversity and the nation	How the Indian nation was imagined and built: integration, linguistic reorganisation, pluralism against assimilation; writing society answers with the vocabulary of nationalism and state theory. Draws on sessions 20–21 and 52–54.
P2	Caste, class and gender in today's India	Caste as a changing social and political resource; class formations; gender in family, work and public life; converting the feminism and identity-politics sessions into society answers. Draws on sessions 36–37 and 61–63.
P3	Secularism, communalism and regionalism	The Indian model of secularism against the western one; forms of communalism; regionalism and sub-national identity; multiculturalism scholarship applied to Indian debates. Draws on sessions 39, 57 and 61.
P4	Globalisation and Indian society	Effects of globalisation on family, caste, culture, work and inequality; glocalisation; writing balanced society answers with theory and evidence. Draws on sessions 70 and 80.

Arena II · Governance & Institutions in Action

SESSIONS P5–P9

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
P5	The living Constitution in current controversies	Constitutional philosophy applied to running debates: free speech, religious freedom, federal friction; the Preamble and constitutional morality as answer devices. Draws on sessions 54–55.
P6	Institutions under stress: judiciary, Governor, ECI	The activism–overreach debate; the Governor's office in centre–state friction; election management questions; frameworks for institutional-integrity answers. Draws on sessions 56–57 and 59.
P7	Democracy's report card: parties, voters, trends	Party system change, electoral behaviour, defection, money in politics; the democracy models applied to India's actual record. Draws on sessions 29–30 and 62.
P8	India through the comparative lens	Using comparative scholarship on Indian questions: parliamentary against presidential systems, federal models, party systems across democracies. Draws on sessions 64–70.
P9	Rights, welfare and social justice in policy	Rights theories behind welfare design; affirmative action debates; the justice frameworks of Rawls and Sen in policy evaluation. Draws on sessions 24–28 and 60.

Arena III · India & the World, Applied

SESSIONS P10–P14

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
P10	Headlines through theory: realism to constructivism	The running international headlines read through realism, liberalism and constructivism; theory as the introduction and conclusion device in any IR answer. Draws on sessions 71–78.
P11	The neighbourhood in real time	Current developments across South Asia converted into ready answer material; a standing framework for any neighbour question. Draws on sessions 86–89.
P12	Great-power politics live: US, China, Russia	The US–China rivalry, Russia and the war, and India’s choices; strategic autonomy argued with current evidence. Draws on sessions 85 and 90–92.
P13	Multilateralism at work: UN, G20, climate, trade	The UN, the G20, climate and trade diplomacy in current affairs; India’s positions written with evidence. Draws on sessions 79–83 and 96–97.
P14	The Indo-Pacific and India’s strategic map	The Quad, maritime security and connectivity in one strategic map for answers on India’s extended neighbourhood. Draws on sessions 90–91 and 93–94.

Arena IV · Political Economy of the World

SESSIONS P15–P17

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
P15	The world economic order today	The IMF, World Bank and WTO in the news; debt, reform demands and the currency questions; writing international-economy answers with institutional depth. Draws on sessions 80 and 96.
P16	Geoeconomics: sanctions, trade wars, supply chains	Economic statecraft as a concept: sanctions, trade wars, supply-chain politics and technology competition. Draws on sessions 77–78.
P17	Development debates: growth, welfare, inequality	Growth against welfare; inequality debates; what the developmental state literature teaches for India’s path. Draws on sessions 24–26, 60 and 68.

Arena V · The Philosopher’s Treasury

SESSIONS P18–P21

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
P18	Indian thinkers as answer capital	Deploying Kautilya, the Buddhist tradition, Gandhi and Ambedkar in value-based and society answers: one-line frameworks, verified quotations, where each thinker fits. Draws on sessions 41–51.
P19	Western thinkers for the toughest questions	Building answers on abstract prompts with Plato, Aristotle, Mill, Marx and Rawls; turning thinker knowledge into argument, not name-dropping. Draws on sessions 2–17 and 24–25.
P20	Concepts that travel: justice, liberty, power	Justice, liberty, equality and power as analytical devices usable in any paper; definitions that hold, distinctions that score. Draws on sessions 18–30.
P21	The ethics of public power	Constitutional morality, accountability and probity; what the thinkers say about power and its abuse; case-based writing with a philosophical spine. Draws on sessions 22, 49–50 and 54–56.

NO.	SESSION	WHAT WILL BE COVERED
P22	Architecture of the long prose piece	Thesis, structure, flow and transitions at a thousand-plus words; openings that hold attention and conclusions with vision.
P23	Abstract and philosophical prompts	Handling quote-based and abstract prompts; building interpretations; political theory as the engine of the piece. Draws on sessions 2–40.
P24	Issue-based prompts with PSIR substance	Polity, society and world-affairs prompts treated multidimensionally, with PSIR evidence and scholarship doing the heavy lifting. Draws on the whole hundred sessions.
P25	Full-length practice and review workshop	Timed full-length practice; the common mistakes seen in copies; individual feedback and the final plan for your attempt.

Over and above these sessions: PSIR Dynamics, every week

Phase 1 runs weekly along with the foundation. It converts newspapers, editorials and reports into ready PSIR notes, mapped to Paper I, Paper II-A and Paper II-B: constitutionalism and federalism in the news, elections and party politics, IR theory through current headlines, the US–China rivalry, West Asia, the Indo-Pacific, the Global South, climate and technology politics, and more, on rotation through the year.

Phase 2 launches after Prelims next year and runs through the Mains window: intensive current affairs consolidation, probable themes and a full-year dynamic revision, so you walk into the exam hall with everything updated.

Both phases are included for every Magnus and Crucible student. The weekly topic adapts to live developments; the coverage of every dynamic area of the syllabus is assured.

Every session carries its own PYQ discussion and answer-writing practice. That is the design.