



POLITICAL SCIENCE & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

NOT JUST A FOUNDATION COURSE

PSIR Optional Foundation

*A foundation that does not leave you midway.
Complete handholding, from your first class to the
Interview.*

TWO COURSES **Magnus** • **Crucible**

DESIGNED & TAUGHT BY

Amit Pratap Singh

PSIR Faculty, ForumIAS • t.me/psirbyamitpratap

FOUNDATION 2026

Why I designed this course



Amit Pratap Singh
PSIR · FORUMIAS

Every year, students come and meet me after finishing a foundation course from somewhere. Most of them say the same things.

Sir, classes were okay, but my answer writing never developed. Sir, current affairs is still pending. Sir, the notes I made in the beginning feel old now. And sir, once the course got over, there was nobody to guide me.

These students did not fail their course. Their course failed them. The truth is that every foundation course leaves the student wanting for something more.

So when I sat down to design this Foundation, I kept one simple rule in front of me. This course will not leave you midway. Answer writing will happen inside every class, from the first week itself. Current affairs will run with you through PSIR Dynamics, week after week, till your Mains. Your class notes will keep getting updated, so they never become old. Your test copies will be checked properly, and mentorship will be there whenever you feel stuck.

And the handholding will not stop at Mains. When you clear the written exam, the Optionals Interview Guidance Programme at ForumIAS will prepare you for the Interview. From your first class to the final stage of this exam, you will not be alone.

This is not just a foundation course. This is my commitment to you as a teacher.

Amit Pratap Singh

POLITICAL SCIENCE & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS · FORUMIAS

THE PROMISE, IN ONE LINE

This course will not leave you midway. From your first class to the final stage, you will not be alone.

Five problems every aspirant faces. *Five answers.*

These are the five complaints I hear most often from students of other foundation courses. Each one has been solved in the design of this course itself, not left for you to manage on your own.

01

THE COMPLAINT — "MY ANSWER WRITING NEVER DEVELOPED"

Answer writing inside every class

PYQ discussion, model answers and writing practice are part of each and every class, from the first week itself. There is no separate answer-writing module kept for the end. You learn a topic and you write on it, in the same class.

02

THE COMPLAINT — "CURRENT AFFAIRS IS STILL PENDING"

Current affairs runs with you, every week

PSIR Dynamics is a weekly current affairs class that runs in two phases: with the foundation, and then again in the Mains window next year. The dynamic portion of PSIR is covered with you, week by week. It is never left as a backlog.

03

THE COMPLAINT — "MY NOTES HAVE BECOME OLD"

Notes that never get old

Your foundation notes are updated continuously as the subject moves. What you study in the first month is still fresh and usable on the day you write your paper.

04

THE COMPLAINT — "TESTS WERE NEVER PROPERLY CHECKED"

Test copies checked properly, with feedback

Sectional and full-length PSIR tests, with each copy evaluated on structure, use of thinkers, current linkage and conclusion. You get feedback you can act on, not just a number on the front page.

05

THE COMPLAINT — "AFTER THE COURSE, NOBODY WAS THERE"

Handholding till the Interview stage

Mentorship runs through the year and becomes stronger as Mains comes close. After Mains, the Optionals Interview Guidance Programme (OIGP) at ForumIAS takes you through Interview preparation. The support system covers the full journey, not just the classes.

Same foundation. *Choose your depth.*

Both courses are built on the same complete 100-session PSIR Optional foundation with PSIR Dynamics. **Magnus** adds PSIR Praxis, a 25-session application series across the Mains, and gives you next year's OGP Advanced and the Interview programme free. **Crucible** keeps the focus purely on the optional, in five flexible plans.

FLAGSHIP

Magnus

Total
125
sessions

The complete package: your optional, its application across the Mains, and support up to the Interview. One admission, full journey.

- ✓ Full **100-session** PSIR Optional foundation
- ✓ **PSIR Praxis** — 25 application sessions across the Mains
- ✓ PSIR Dynamics, both phases
- ✓ PSIR Test Series with copy evaluation — included
- ✓ **OGP Advanced** next year — **free**
- ✓ **OIGP** Interview guidance — **free**

₹72,000

ONE FEE · ANY MODE

CORE

Crucible

Total
100
sessions

The complete PSIR Optional foundation, focused fully on the optional papers.

- ✓ Full **100-session** PSIR Optional foundation
- ✓ PSIR Dynamics, both phases
- ✓ Answer writing inside **every** class
- ✓ Class notes & scholar quote bank
- ✓ Mentorship & doubt support through the year
- ✓ Test Series available in the +Test Series plans

FROM ₹42,000

FIVE PLANS · PAGE 09

WHAT YOU GET	MAGNUS	CRUCIBLE
100-session PSIR Optional foundation	Yes	Yes
PSIR Dynamics, Phase 1 & Phase 2	Yes	Yes
Answer writing & PYQs in every class	Yes	Yes
PSIR Test Series with copy evaluation	Included	In + Test Series plans
PSIR Praxis — 25 application sessions	Yes	—
OGP Advanced next year	Free	—
OIGP — Optionals Interview Guidance	Free	—

100 core sessions. PYQs in *every one*.

The full official PSIR syllabus, taught in depth. Previous year questions are discussed inside each class, so answer writing develops with the syllabus, not after it. The detailed session-wise plan is attached with this brochure.

- In both courses
- Magnus only

PAPER I — POLITICAL THEORY & INDIAN POLITICS · 63 SESSIONS

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|-----------|---|
| 01 | <p>○ Orientation & Method 1 SESSION</p> <p>How PSIR is examined and why it scores; the 500-mark logic; reading, note-making and the answer-writing method you will use through the year.</p> |
| 02 | <p>○ Western Political Thought 16 SESSIONS</p> <p>Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, J.S. Mill, Marx, Gramsci and Hannah Arendt. Text, context and evaluation, thinker by thinker.</p> |
| 03 | <p>○ Political Theory — Core Concepts 13 SESSIONS</p> <p>Meaning & approaches; theories of the state; power, authority & legitimacy; justice; equality & liberty; rights, duties & human rights; democracy.</p> |
| 04 | <p>○ Political Ideologies & Debates 10 SESSIONS</p> <p>Liberalism, socialism, Marxism, feminism, fascism and Gandhism; postmodernism & multiculturalism; end of ideology, end of history, clash of civilisations.</p> |
| 05 | <p>○ Indian Political Thought 11 SESSIONS</p> <p>Dharmashastra, Arthashastra & Buddhist traditions; Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Sri Aurobindo, M.K. Gandhi, B.R. Ambedkar and M.N. Roy.</p> |
| 06 | <p>○ Indian Government & Politics 12 SESSIONS</p> <p>Indian nationalism and its perspectives; the Constitution in two full sessions; organs of the Union & States; federalism; grassroots democracy; statutory commissions; planning & development; caste, religion & secularism; party system & electoral behaviour; social movements.</p> |

Continued on the next page: Paper II, and the two additions that make Magnus.

- 07** ○ **Comparative Political Analysis** (7 SESSIONS)
 Nature, approaches and limits of the comparative method; political economy & political sociology; the state in comparative perspective; representation & participation; globalisation.
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- 08** ○ **International Relations — Theory & Key Concepts** (8 SESSIONS)
 Realism, liberalism, Marxist & critical approaches, the English School, constructivism, feminism, post-structuralism; national interest, power, security, balance of power, deterrence, collective security.
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- 09** ○ **International Politics — Order, Economy & Institutions** (5 SESSIONS)
 The changing world order, from bipolarity to multipolarity; the international economic system; the UN and its reform; regionalisation of world politics; contemporary global concerns.
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- 10** ○ **India and the World** (16 SESSIONS) **EXPANDED**
 India's foreign policy, given the space it deserves: from the determinants of policy to the neighbourhood, the great powers, the Global South, the UN and the nuclear question. Full session map on the next page.
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- 11** ○ **Grand Consolidation & Mains Strategy** (1 SESSION)
 The full syllabus mapped in one session; a micro-revision plan; the test and Dynamics roadmap for the last ninety days before Mains.

- Only in Magnus: the addition that puts your PSIR to work across the Mains

- P** ○ **PSIR Praxis — The Application Series** (25 SESSIONS)
 Six arenas that put your hundred core sessions to work on the rest of the written examination: society, governance & institutions, world affairs, the global economy, thinkers & ethics, and long prose writing. The full arena map, with the exact core sessions each arena draws on, is on page 08.

PAPER II · SECTION B

India and the World

16
SESSIONS

India's foreign policy is the most dynamic and most asked portion of Paper II. So it is taught at full length, relationship by relationship, and not finished in a hurry. Sixteen sessions, each with its own PYQs and current affairs linkage.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>01 Foundations of Indian foreign policy — determinants, policy-making institutions, continuity & change</p> | <p>09 India–Russia & India–EU — strategic continuity, the sanctions dilemma, the FTA question</p> |
| <p>02 NAM, strategic autonomy & multi-alignment — India as the voice of the Global South</p> | <p>10 India–Japan & the Indo-Pacific — Act East, the Quad, maritime security</p> |
| <p>03 India & South Asia — Neighbourhood First, SAARC & BIMSTEC, and why regionalism is stuck</p> | <p>11 India, West Asia & the Gulf — energy, diaspora, Israel (I2U2), Iran (Chabahar)</p> |
| <p>04 India–Pakistan — the full trajectory: Kashmir, terrorism, water, trade, policy options</p> | <p>12 India & Africa — development partnership, energy & minerals, the demand for a new economic order</p> |
| <p>05 The eastern & Himalayan neighbours — Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan</p> | <p>13 India, Latin America & the WTO — South–South cooperation and India's negotiating position</p> |
| <p>06 The Indian Ocean neighbourhood — Sri Lanka, Maldives, Myanmar</p> | <p>14 India & the UN system — peacekeeping, UN reform, the case for a permanent seat</p> |
| <p>07 India–United States — from estrangement to strategic partnership; defence, technology, trade, diaspora</p> | <p>15 India & the nuclear question — doctrine, disarmament diplomacy, NPT / CTBT / NSG</p> |
| <p>08 India–China — the boundary question, BRI, trade dependence, the China–Pakistan axis</p> | <p>16 Recent developments & a new world order — West Asia crises, I2U2 & IMEC, Ukraine, supply chains</p> |

The static core of each session is fixed. The current affairs portion keeps getting refreshed through PSIR Dynamics as events move.

MAGNUS · SESSIONS P1–P25

PSIR Praxis

25
SESSIONS

Your optional, at work across the Mains.

The hundred core sessions build your PSIR. Praxis puts that preparation to work on the rest of the written examination: every session begins from what you have already learnt, and shows you where else it earns marks.

Six arenas, each at the heart of the remaining Mains papers, each running on material you already command: **society, governance & institutions, world affairs, the global economy, thinkers & ethics, and long prose writing.**

ARENA I Indian Society through the PSIR Lens

4 SESSIONS

- P1 Unity, diversity and the nation
- P2 Caste, class and gender in today's India
- P3 Secularism, communalism and regionalism
- P4 Globalisation and Indian society

DRAWS ON State theory 20–21 · feminism & multiculturalism 36–39 · nationalism 52–53 · caste, religion & ethnicity 61 · social movements 63 · globalisation 70

ARENA II Governance & Institutions in Action

5 SESSIONS

- P5 The living Constitution in current controversies
- P6 Institutions under stress: judiciary, Governor, ECI
- P7 Democracy's report card: parties, voters, trends
- P8 India through the comparative lens
- P9 Rights, welfare and social justice in policy

DRAWS ON Justice to democracy 24–30 · Constitution to commissions 54–59 · planning 60 · party system 62 · comparative politics 64–70

ARENA III India & the World, Applied

5 SESSIONS

- P10 Headlines through theory: realism to constructivism
- P11 The neighbourhood in real time
- P12 Great-power politics live: US, China, Russia
- P13 Multilateralism at work: UN, G20, climate, trade
- P14 The Indo-Pacific and India's strategic map

DRAWS ON IR theory & key concepts 71–78 · world order & institutions 79–83 · India and the World 84–99

ARENA IV Political Economy of the World

3 SESSIONS

- P15 The world economic order today
- P16 Geoeconomics: sanctions, trade wars, supply chains
- P17 Development debates: growth, welfare, inequality

DRAWS ON Planning & development 60 · the state compared 68 · globalisation 70 · geoeconomics 77–78 · world economy 80 · WTO 96

ARENA V The Philosopher's Treasury

4 SESSIONS

- P18 Indian thinkers as answer capital
- P19 Western thinkers for the toughest questions
- P20 Concepts that travel: justice, liberty, power
- P21 The ethics of public power

DRAWS ON Western thought 2–17 · core concepts 18–30 · Indian thought 41–51 · the Constitution 54–56

ARENA VI Long Prose Writing

4 SESSIONS

- P22 Architecture of the long prose piece
- P23 Abstract and philosophical prompts
- P24 Issue-based prompts with PSIR substance
- P25 Full-length practice and review workshop

DRAWS ON the whole hundred, sessions 1–100, deployed at full length

Praxis teaches no new syllabus and replaces no dedicated preparation for the other papers. It has one job: to make everything you learn in your hundred PSIR sessions pay wherever the Mains rewards it.

Not just a foundation course. *A complete journey.*

Your path, stage by stage

This is how the course stays with you from admission to selection. No stage is left for you to handle alone.



Foundation year

100 core sessions ·
PSIR Dynamics Phase
1 · tests & mentorship
Magnus: + PSIR Praxis

Prelims

Revision plan and
guidance for the
Prelims window

Mains window

PSIR Dynamics Phase
2 · consolidation & tests
Magnus: OGP
Advanced, free

Mains

You walk in with
updated notes and a
practised hand

Interview

OIGP: Optionals
Interview Guidance
Programme
Magnus: free

PSIR Dynamics, in two phases

Phase 1 runs weekly with the foundation, converting newspapers and editorials into PSIR notes. Phase 2 launches after Prelims next year and runs through the Mains window. Both phases are included for every student.

Test copies checked, with feedback

Sectional and full-length PSIR tests. Every copy is evaluated on structure, use of thinkers, current linkage and conclusion, and discussed so you know exactly what to improve.

Notes, quote bank & enrichment material

Class-wise notes that keep getting updated, a scholar quote bank and current affairs enrichment sheets. Magnus adds dedicated Praxis application material.

Mentorship & doubt support

Regular one-to-one mentorship through the year, made stronger as Mains comes close. Book a mentorship call on 93117 40432.

See the study material before you decide.

Ask for a sample handout and judge the quality and depth yourself. It is the same material our students carry from the first class to the last revision.

Sample handout & queries
Call / WhatsApp 93117 40432

Simple fee structure. *No hidden charges.*

Choose Magnus for the complete journey at one fee, or pick the Crucible plan that suits your mode of study and budget. Every fee below is all-inclusive.

PLAN	WHAT IT INCLUDES	FEE
Magnus FLAGSHIP	125 sessions (100 core + 25 PSIR Praxis) · Dynamics both phases · Test Series included · OGP Advanced free · OIGP free · any mode, one fee	₹72,000
Crucible · Online	100 sessions live online with recordings · Dynamics both phases · notes & mentorship	₹42,000
Crucible · Online + Test Series	Everything in Online, plus the full PSIR Test Series with copy evaluation	₹46,000
Crucible · Offline	100 sessions in the classroom at Old Rajinder Nagar · Dynamics both phases · notes & mentorship	₹48,000
Crucible · Offline + Test Series	Everything in Offline, plus the full PSIR Test Series with copy evaluation	₹52,000
Crucible · Hybrid + Test Series	Attend in the classroom or online as per your convenience, with the full Test Series	₹55,000

All-inclusive fee

The fee you see is the fee you pay. Dynamics, notes and mentorship carry no extra charges.

Upgrade any time in 30 days

Move from any Crucible plan to a higher plan or to Magnus within 30 days by paying only the difference.

Existing ForumIAS students

A concession applies on both courses. Speak to the counselling desk before taking admission.

Not sure which plan to take?

Call or WhatsApp 93117 40432 and book a free counselling call. We will guide you honestly.

Take admission in the foundation that stays with you till your final stage.

ADMISSION & ENQUIRY

Call / WhatsApp 93117 40432

FACULTY CHANNEL

t.me/psirbyamitpratap

WEBSITE

forumias.com · PSIR Optional

Session counts show the structure of the programme; the detailed session-wise lecture plan is attached with this brochure. Weekly topics in PSIR Dynamics adapt to live developments through the year. All fees are inclusive of applicable taxes.