

Prelims from First Principles

UPSC Civil Services Preliminary Examination 2027. Two hundred and seventeen sessions and four hundred and thirty-four hours of teaching, taught in one continuous sequence from November to May.

Enrolment opens	Thursday, 1 October 2026	Mode	Live online, all sessions recorded
Cohort 1 begins	Monday, 16 November 2026	Medium	English
Cohort 1 concludes	Sunday, 14 February 2027	Recordings available until	31 May 2027
Cohort 2 runs	18 January – 18 April 2027	Programme runs until	22 May 2027
Examination	Sunday, 23 May 2027	Plans	₹24,999 · ₹29,999 · ₹41,999

This is not a revision sprint. Most Prelims courses run thirty to ninety days and assume you already hold the syllabus. This one teaches it – 434 hours built from first principles, with every session listed here before you pay for any of it.

SECTION ONE

The programme at a glance

COMPONENT	COUNT	SHAPE
Duration	13 weeks	Six teaching days a week, plus a test every Sunday
General Studies	156 lectures	Two lectures daily, two hours each — 312 hours
CSAT	30 lectures	Three a week for the first ten weeks — 60 hours
Current Affairs	31 classes	Weekends, 17 January to 16 May — 62 hours
Total teaching	217 sessions	434 hours of live instruction
Assessment	Weekly	A short quiz in every class and a test every week, both set by the teacher
Practice questions	25 a day	A daily problem set released with every recording
Test series	25 or 35 tests	Included in every plan, attempted whenever you choose
Modules	11	Each one can be bought on its own
Plans	3	₹24,999 · ₹29,999 · ₹41,999

SECTION TWO

Why the subjects run in this order

Most Prelims courses open with Polity because it feels reassuring. We do not. The order below is built around how the four months actually work.

WEEKS	DATES	SUBJECTS	WHY HERE
1–4	16 Nov – 13 Dec	Geography · Indian Economy	The two most conceptually demanding subjects, taught when energy is highest. Both reward understanding over memory, and both need the longest runway for the ideas to settle before the exam.
5–8	14 Dec – 10 Jan	Mapping · Science & Technology · Environment	Mapping lands immediately after Geography, while the physical map is still fresh. S&T and Environment carry the largest and least predictable question load in recent papers — they get the centre of the course, not the edges.
9–12	11 Jan – 7 Feb	Polity & Governance · Ancient, Medieval & Art and Culture · Modern History	The most retention-dependent subjects, taught last so they are freshest entering the revision phase. Facts decay; frameworks do not.
13	8 – 14 Feb	Modern History · PYQ Lab	The last four Modern History lectures, then eight on the exam itself — how UPSC builds questions, and how to attempt them.

THE PRINCIPLE BEHIND IT

Conceptual subjects first, factual subjects last. Geography and Economy are understood once and retained; if you learn them in November you still have them in May. Polity and History are held by repetition and decay without it — so they are taught closest to the revision phase. It also means the hardest conceptual work happens before fatigue sets in, and the last month of class is the month you are most able to absorb volume.

SECTION THREE

Your day

SLOT	TIME	WHAT RUNS
Lecture 1	08:30 – 10:30	Geography → Mapping → Science & Technology → Polity → PYQ Lab
Break	10:30 – 11:00	Thirty minutes
Lecture 2	11:00 – 13:00	Economy → Environment → Ancient / Medieval / Art & Culture → Modern History → PYQ Lab
Recordings	by 15:00	Both lectures, plus the day's 25-question practice set
Self-study	14:00 onwards	Your afternoon and evening are yours
CSAT	Mon / Wed / Fri, 18:00 – 20:00	Weeks 1–10. Weeks 11–13 are timed practice and discussion.
Current Affairs	Sun 16:00 · Sat 11:00 from 20 Feb	Begins 17 January, runs to 16 May — its own track on its own clock
Doubt clinic	Wed 21:00 – 22:00	Live, weekly, rotating faculty
Weekly test	—	Set by the teacher

Two things about this shape are deliberate. The teaching block finishes by one o'clock, which leaves an unbroken afternoon and evening for reading — in a programme this dense, study time matters as much as class time. And current affairs sits at four on Sunday afternoon, straight after the weekly test, while the questions you have just got wrong are still stinging.

SECTION FOUR

The thirteen weeks

WK	DATES (MON–SAT)	08:30 LECTURE	11:00 LECTURE	SUNDAY TEST
1	16 – 21 Nov 2026	Geography 1–6	Economy 1–6	22 Nov
2	23 – 28 Nov	Geography 7–12	Economy 7–12	29 Nov
3	30 Nov – 5 Dec	Geography 13–18	Economy 13–18	6 Dec
4	7 – 12 Dec	Geography 19–22 · Mapping 1–2	Economy 19–24	13 Dec
5	14 – 19 Dec	Mapping 3–8	Environment 1–6	20 Dec
6	21 – 26 Dec	Science & Tech 1–6	Environment 7–12	27 Dec
7	28 Dec – 2 Jan	Science & Tech 7–12	Environment 13–18	3 Jan
8	4 – 9 Jan 2027	Science & Tech 13–18	Environment 19–24	10 Jan
9	11 – 16 Jan	Sci & Tech 19–20 · Polity 1–4	Anc/Med/A&C 1–6	17 Jan
10	18 – 23 Jan	Polity 5–10	Anc/Med/A&C 7–12	24 Jan
11	25 – 30 Jan	Polity 11–16	Anc/Med/A&C 13–16 · Modern 1–2	31 Jan
12	1 – 6 Feb	Polity 17–22	Modern History 3–8	7 Feb
13	8 – 13 Feb	PYQ Lab 1–6	Modern 9–12 · PYQ Lab 7–8	14 Feb

The CSAT track

WK	DATES (MON / WED / FRI)	LECTURES	BLOCK
1	16, 18, 20 Nov	1–3	Paper architecture, strategy, number system
2	23, 25, 27 Nov	4–6	Basic numeracy
3	30 Nov, 2, 4 Dec	7–9	Basic numeracy
4	7, 9, 11 Dec	10–12	Basic numeracy
5	14, 16, 18 Dec	13–15	Data interpretation
6	21, 23, 25 Dec	16–18	Data interpretation; reasoning begins
7	28, 30 Dec, 1 Jan	19–21	Reasoning
8	4, 6, 8 Jan	22–24	Reasoning
9	11, 13, 15 Jan	25–27	Comprehension
10	18, 20, 22 Jan	28–30	Comprehension; decision making
11–13	25 Jan – 13 Feb	—	Timed practice and discussion. No new teaching.

CSAT teaching ends three weeks before the course does, on purpose. It is a skill subject: it improves with drilling, not with more instruction. Those last three weeks are practice inside the programme rather than homework after it.

The Current Affairs track

Current affairs begins on Sunday 17 January 2027, four days after the UPSC notification. There is a reason it does not start in November: most of what will be asked in May 2027 has not happened yet. Starting in January means teaching the year once, properly, rather than teaching half of it in November and again in April.

PHASE	DATES	CLASSES	PATTERN
A — The 2026 backlog	17 Jan – 14 Feb	5	Sundays 16:00 — one a week while the course still runs
B — Core	20 Feb – 18 Apr	18	Saturdays 11:00 and Sundays 16:00
C — Final sprint	24 Apr – 16 May	8	Saturdays 11:00 and Sundays 16:00
Total	17 Jan – 16 May	31	62 hours, ending one week before the exam

A recorded backlog capsule covering June to December 2026 is released in November, so the live January classes can build on it rather than spend themselves on catching up.

AFTER 14 FEBRUARY

The course ends; the programme does not. From 20 February current affairs steps up to twice a week, and everything below continues to the examination at no additional cost.

- Current affairs classes twice weekly, Saturday and Sunday, until 16 May
- Weekly tests and quizzes for as long as classes run
- A live ninety-minute discussion clinic every fortnight, Sunday evenings — current affairs and doubts
- Six subject revision capsules, released in March
- A Budget 2027 and Economic Survey capsule in February
- A fifteen-day rapid revision series in May

SECTION FIVE

The eleven modules

Eleven modules, 217 sessions, 434 hours. Any module can be bought on its own; prices are in section seven. The test series comes with the plans, and with the CSAT module.

Geography

LECTURES	POSITION	FACULTY	ON ITS OWN
22 · 44 hours	Weeks 1–4 · 08:30	Announced shortly	₹5,499

Indian Economy

LECTURES	POSITION	FACULTY	ON ITS OWN
24 · 48 hours	Weeks 1–4 · 11:00	Announced shortly	₹5,999

Mapping Intensive

LECTURES	POSITION	FACULTY	ON ITS OWN
8 · 16 hours	Weeks 4–5 · 08:30	Announced shortly	₹2,499

Taught in the fortnight straight after Geography, while the physical map is still fresh. Most aspirants know mapping is their weakest area and never find sixteen focused hours for it anywhere.

Science & Technology

LECTURES	POSITION	FACULTY	ON ITS OWN
20 · 40 hours	Weeks 6–9 · 08:30	Abhishek	₹5,499

Environment & Ecology

LECTURES	POSITION	FACULTY	ON ITS OWN
24 · 48 hours	Weeks 5–8 · 11:00	Abhishek · second faculty member announced shortly	₹5,999

Environment is taught jointly: the science half — ecology, biodiversity, pollution, climate — by Abhishek; the governance half — forests, protected areas, law, conventions — by a second faculty member, announced shortly. Twelve lectures each.

Polity & Governance

LECTURES	POSITION	FACULTY	ON ITS OWN
22 · 44 hours	Weeks 9–12 · 08:30	Announced shortly	₹5,499

Ancient, Medieval and Art & Culture

LECTURES	POSITION	FACULTY	ON ITS OWN
16 · 32 hours	Weeks 9–11 · 11:00	Announced shortly	₹4,299

Modern Indian History

LECTURES	POSITION	FACULTY	ON ITS OWN
12 · 24 hours	Weeks 11–13 · 11:00	Announced shortly	₹3,299

PYQ Lab & Exam Technique

LECTURES	POSITION	FACULTY	ON ITS OWN
8 · 16 hours	Week 13 · both slots	Faculty panel	₹2,799

The closing week of the course is about the examination itself rather than its syllabus. Eight lectures on how the paper is built and how it should be attempted — the part of preparation that moves scores most and that almost nobody teaches deliberately.

CSAT Intensive (Paper II)

LECTURES	POSITION	FACULTY	ON ITS OWN
30 · 60 hours	Weeks 1–10 · Mon/Wed/Fri 18:00	Announced shortly	₹9,999

Ten weeks of teaching, then three weeks of timed practice inside the programme. The module carries the CSAT test series — 10 tests, attempted whenever you choose.

Current Affairs from First Principles

CLASSES	POSITION	FACULTY	ON ITS OWN
31 · 62 hours	17 Jan – 16 May · weekends	The full faculty panel	₹10,999

Thirty-one classes of two hours, plus a recorded backlog capsule on June–December 2026 released in November. Every faculty member teaches current affairs inside their own subject.

This module is the last one still teaching. Every other module has finished by 14 February; current affairs runs on for another three months and closes one week before you sit the paper.

Assessment

Assessment sits inside the teaching rather than beside it. Every class closes with a short quiz on what has just been taught, set by the faculty member who taught it, and every week carries a test on the week's material, set by the faculty member who taught it. Both are set by faculty, marked, and discussed in class, so the person who wrote the questions is the person who explains the answers.

A quiz in every class

Short, immediate, and set by the teacher — it tells you the same day whether the lecture landed. Followed by the daily 25-question practice set with the recording.

A test every week

Set by the teacher, on the week just taught and the weeks before it. Thirteen weeks of writing a paper under time, marked and discussed in class.

INCLUDED — THE PRELIMS TEST SERIES

The test series comes with the programme. The ₹24,999 plan carries the General Studies series of 25 tests; the ₹29,999 and ₹41,999 plans carry the combined series of 35 tests — 25 General Studies and 10 CSAT; the CSAT module carries the CSAT series of 10 tests. Every test has detailed solutions and sources, an all-India rank, sectional accuracy, and an attempt-efficiency score that separates marks earned from knowledge, from elimination, and from guessing.

The series is unlinked from the class schedule. There is no fixed test calendar to keep up with: you attempt each paper whenever you are ready for it, and the rank list builds as students take it.

Fees

The three plans

PLAN	PRICE	EARLY BIRD	FOR
General Studies + Current Affairs	₹24,999	₹21,999	Those preparing CSAT elsewhere or already comfortable with Paper II
Prelims from First Principles — everything	₹29,999	₹26,499	All 217 sessions, every module, everything in this document. The plan most people should take.
Complete + Mentoring — 120 seats	₹41,999	₹37,999	Everything in the full programme, unchanged; the extra ₹12,000 buys the mentoring

Early bird deadline: announced shortly.

What each plan includes

	GS + CURRENT AFFAIRS ₹24,999	FULL PROGRAMME ₹29,999	+ MENTORING ₹41,999
Lectures	156 General Studies + 31 Current Affairs	All 217 — the above plus 30 CSAT	All 217
Assessment	A quiz in every class, a test every week	A quiz in every class, a test every week	The same, plus error-pattern analysis
Test series	General Studies series — 25 tests	Combined series — 35 tests (25 GS + 10 CSAT)	Combined series — 35 tests
Notes and practice	GS and CA notes, daily 25-question sets	Notes for all modules, daily sets	Notes for all modules, daily sets
Recordings	Every session, available until 31 May 2027	Every session, available until 31 May 2027	Every session, available until 31 May 2027
Support to the exam	Weekly doubt clinic; revision capsules, Budget capsule and the May sprint	The same, plus the CSAT practice weeks	The same, plus a priority doubt channel answered within 24 hours
Mentoring	—	—	60-minute diagnostic call, one-to-one calls with a teaching faculty member, a personal weekly study plan, and two strategy sessions in May

Tests in the series are attempted on your own schedule, independent of the class calendar; the CSAT series is included wherever CSAT is taught.

Buying modules individually

MODULE	LECTURES	HOURS	PRICE
Indian Economy	24	48	₹5,999
Environment & Ecology	24	48	₹5,999
Geography	22	44	₹5,499
Polity & Governance	22	44	₹5,499
Science & Technology	20	40	₹5,499
Ancient, Medieval and Art & Culture	16	32	₹4,299
Modern Indian History	12	24	₹3,299
PYQ Lab & Exam Technique	8	16	₹2,799
Mapping Intensive	8	16	₹2,499
All nine General Studies modules	156	312	₹41,391
Current Affairs from First Principles	31	62	₹10,999
CSAT Intensive — with the 10-test CSAT series	30	60	₹9,999
All eleven modules	217	434	₹62,389

Five or more modules together: 20% off. No discount below five. The General Studies test series is not sold with individual modules; it comes with a plan.

MODULES OR A PLAN

Every plan adds the test series, the daily practice sets, the revision capsules and support through to the examination, none of which come with an individual module. Below, the same teaching and tests bought piece by piece — modules at the 20% five-or-more discount, test series at its own price.

PLAN	MODULES	TEST SERIES	PIECE BY PIECE	PLAN	YOU SAVE
GS + Current Affairs	₹41,912	₹4,999	₹46,911	₹24,999	₹21,912
Full programme	₹49,911	₹6,999	₹56,910	₹29,999	₹26,911

Complete + Mentoring carries the same teaching and the same 35-test series; the extra ₹12,000 buys the mentoring, which is not sold separately.

SECTION EIGHT

If November is too soon

A second cohort runs the same programme on the same structure from Monday, 18 January 2027 to Sunday, 18 April 2027 — five weeks before the examination. In that cohort CSAT runs in the morning and General Studies in the evening, leaving the middle of the day free.

	COHORT 1	COHORT 2
Dates	16 Nov 2026 – 14 Feb 2027	18 Jan – 18 Apr 2027
General Studies	08:30 and 11:00	16:30 and 19:00
CSAT	Mon / Wed / Fri 18:00	Mon / Wed / Fri 08:30
Current Affairs	Shared track from 17 January — identical for both cohorts	Shared track from 17 January — identical for both cohorts
Assessment	Class quizzes and weekly tests	Class quizzes and weekly tests on its own calendar
Gap before Prelims	14 weeks of revision and testing	5 weeks of revision and testing
Suits	A long, unhurried run at the syllabus	A focused sprint after the notification

Fees are identical. Enrolment in Cohort 1 transfers to Cohort 2 free of charge at any point up to 31 December 2026.

SECTION NINE

Faculty

FACULTY	MODULES	BACKGROUND
Abhishek	Science & Technology · Environment (part)	32 lectures on the science spine — S&T in full, plus ecology, pollution and climate science
Announced shortly	Indian Economy	Announced shortly
Announced shortly	Geography · Mapping · Environment (part)	Announced shortly
Announced shortly	Polity & Governance	Announced shortly
Announced shortly	Ancient, Medieval & Art and Culture · Modern History	Announced shortly
Announced shortly	CSAT	Announced shortly
The full panel	Current Affairs	Each faculty member teaches current affairs in their own subject — not one generalist reading out a monthly magazine

Environment is taught jointly: the science half — ecology, biodiversity, pollution, climate — by Abhishek; the governance half — forests, protected areas, law, conventions — by a second faculty member, announced shortly. Twelve lectures each.

How to enrol

01

Enrolment opens 1 October 2026

Registration opens at vidbodh.com on Thursday, 1 October 2026, for both cohorts and for individual modules.

02

Choose a plan and a cohort

Pick one of the three plans in section seven, then Cohort 1 (16 November) or Cohort 2 (18 January). Fees are identical; transfers are free until 31 December 2026.

03

Cohort 1 begins 16 November

Access, notes and the daily practice sets open with the first lecture. Refunds within seven days of the start date or the first six lectures, whichever comes first.

Questions

Is this a crash course?

No. A crash course revises a syllabus you already hold, usually in thirty to ninety days. This teaches the syllabus from the beginning across 434 hours. If you have already covered everything and want only practice, this is more programme than you need.

What if I miss a class?

Every lecture is recorded and available by three o'clock the same day, and stays available until 31 May 2027. The Wednesday doubt clinic exists partly for people catching up.

Why does current affairs start only in January?

Because most of what Prelims 2027 will ask about has not happened yet. Teaching current affairs in November means covering a half-empty year and then covering it again in April. Beginning on 17 January, four days after the notification, means the year is taught once and taught properly — and it then runs continuously to 16 May, a week before the paper. The June–December 2026 backlog is covered by a recorded capsule released in November.

Can I add CSAT later?

Yes, at the ₹5,000 upgrade price, up to the end of Week 3. After that the standalone module price applies.

Can I buy a single subject?

Yes. Every module in section five can be bought on its own, with its class quizzes and weekly tests. This is designed for repeat aspirants with one weak area, and for State PSC candidates.

What is actually different about the mentoring plan?

The calls are with a member of the teaching faculty, not a separate mentor team. There are 120 seats, capped at twenty-four students per faculty member — the most any one of them can track properly. It is capped for that reason and will not be expanded.

Can I buy current affairs on its own?

Yes, at ₹10,999. It is the longest module in the programme and the only one still running in May. It is included free in both the ₹24,999 and ₹29,999 plans, so buying it separately only makes sense if you are preparing everything else elsewhere.

Is there a refund?

Yes — within seven days of the start date or the first six lectures, whichever comes first.

VidBodh Academy

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