

# UPSC GS 4 Syllabus

Below, we have mentioned the UPSC GS 4 Syllabus in detail. It is recommended that aspirants understand all the topics covered in the GS 4 Paper before starting their preparation.

UPSC GS 4 Syllabus for Mains	
Ethics and Human Interface	Essence of Ethics, Determinants and Consequences of Ethics in Human Interaction Human Values – lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators Dimensions of Ethics Role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating moral and ethical values Ethics in private and public relationships
Attitude	Content, structure and function of attitude Moral and Political attitudes Social influence and persuasion Influence of attitude in thought and behaviour Relation of attitude to thought and behaviour
Aptitude	Aptitude and foundational values of Civil Service Dedication to public service Empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker sections of the society Integrity Impartiality and non-partisanship Objectivity
Emotional Intelligence	Concepts of emotional intelligence Utility and application of emotional intelligence in administration and governance
Contributions of Thinkers and Philosophers	Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and the world to the concepts of morality
Public/Civil Service Values and Ethics in Public Administration	Status and associated problems Ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions Strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance Ethical Issues in international relations and funding Laws, rules, regulations and conscience as sources of ethical guidance

	Accountability and ethical governance
Probity in Governance	Concept of public service, The philosophical basis of governance and probity, Information sharing and transparency in government, Right to Information, Codes of ethics, Codes of Conduct, Citizen's Charters, Work culture, Challenges of corruption, Utilization of public funds, Quality of service delivery

## Important Topics from UPSC GS 4 Syllabus

Here, we have mentioned the important topics from UPSC GS 4 Syllabus that candidates must give extra focus on during the preparation. However, candidates are recommended cover all the topics as question trends can vary.

- The fundamental notions of ethics-definitions and terminologies
- Morality, political attitudes, and social impact, and their connection to ethics.
- Different aspects of ethics
- Form and function of ethical conceptions
- Ethics' determinants and consequences on human conduct
- concepts of attitude, integrity, and impartiality
- Ethics in public administration
- concept of emotional intelligence, its application, governance, and management.
- Workplace culture and corruption challenges.
- Probity in governance, philosophical foundations of governance, and the concept of probity.

## GS 4 Syllabus Trend Analysis

Below, we have mentioned the number of questions asked for each section of the GS paper 4 syllabus. It would help the candidates to question trends and help them to prepare accordingly.

Category	2020	2019	2018
Basics and thinkers	60	40	50
Work and office	0	0	20
Family and society	60	40	10
Public organisation	10	50	30
Private organisation	0	0	19
Case Studies	120	120	120

## Structure of GS Paper 4 for UPSC Mains

This is one of the most unpredictable paper and the questions asked from the GS 4 syllabus varies from year to year. The following are the important features of this paper:

- It consists of 12 questions and is divided into two sections. Before 2018 a total of 14 questions were asked in the Ethics paper. With time the number of questions has been reduced, and the complexity has increased.
- The GS 4 carries a total of 250 marks, and questions carry 10/20 marks each.
- The word limit for the 10 marks question is 150 words, and the 20 marks question is within 250 words.
- There are two types of questions asked in this paper
  - Direct Concept related, which tests the understanding of ethical issues, and concepts related to aptitude and integrity (125 marks)
  - Case Studies test the application of those concepts in various situations involving the candidate and pressure groups, politicians, public and other people (125 marks)