

# How do I select optional subjects in <u>CSS exam &</u> <u>What are the best subjects for CSS</u> <u>in Pakistan?</u>

# Are you preparing for the CSS exam in Pakistan & Looking forward to work smartly?

If **Yes**, don't miss out on the opportunity to ace your exam by selecting the right optional subjects!

Choosing the best subjects for CSS can make all the difference in your success. But with so many options available, how do you select the right ones? Look no further! Our latest article provides a comprehensive guide on choosing the best optional subjects for CSS in Pakistan. From important tips to the top 15 subjects to consider, this article has everything you need to know to make an informed decision. Don't risk losing out on your chance to excel in the CSS exam. Read our comprehensive guide about choosing your optional for CSS and PMS Competitive Exam here, it is written with the help of team members' years of experience and select the proper optional subjects for your success!

Choosing the right optional subjects is crucial for the success of candidates appearing in the CSS and PMS competitive exams. The selection of the right subjects can significantly impact the overall score, and hence, it is important to consider the following aspects while choosing optional subjects:





CSS Optional Subjects MCQs

Choose your optional subjects while considering the following aspects for CSS and PMS Competitive Exams

- 1. Your background subject
- 2. Your interest
- 3. Your potential
- 4. Less Syllabus
- 5. Common Syllabus
- 6. Scoring trends

# How to Select Optional Subject for CSS Exam for Good Marks?

### 1. Your background subject:

Candidates should consider their educational background and previous academic performance while choosing optional subjects. If a candidate has a strong background in a particular subject, it can be an advantage in the exam. For instance, if a candidate has a degree in Political Science, they may consider opting for Political Science as an optional subject. This can help the candidate leverage their existing knowledge and perform better in the exam.



#### 2. Your interest:

Candidates should choose subjects that they are interested in and have a passion for. Studying a subject that one enjoys can make the learning process more enjoyable and less tedious. Furthermore, it can also help in retaining information better, leading to better performance in the exam.

### 3. Your potential:

Candidates should assess their strengths and weaknesses while choosing optional subjects. If a candidate is good at analytical and quantitative subjects, they may opt for Economics, while if a candidate has excellent writing skills, they may consider opting for English Literature. Choosing a subject that aligns with one's strengths can help in achieving a better score.

#### 4. Less syllabus:

It is advisable to choose optional subjects with a comparatively lesser syllabus. It can help in covering the syllabus more thoroughly and comprehensively, leading to better performance in the exam.

#### 5. Common syllabus:

Candidates can consider opting for subjects that share a common syllabus with the compulsory subjects. For instance, candidates can choose History, Geography, and International Relations as optional subjects, which share a common syllabus with the compulsory subjects, such as Current Affairs, Pakistan Affairs, and Islamic Studies.

#### **6. Scoring trends:**

Candidates should analyze the scoring trends of different subjects in previous exams to make an informed decision. Opting for subjects that have a history of good scores can help in achieving a better overall score on the exam.



### How to Select Optional Subjects for the CSS Exam in Pakistan

The Central Superior Services (CSS) examination is one of the most prestigious exams in Pakistan, and it is designed to select the best candidates for government service. The exam is highly competitive, and the selection of optional subjects is one of the most important decisions that candidates have to make. In this article, we will discuss how to select optional subjects for the CSS exam and what are the best subjects for CSS in Pakistan.

# **Understanding the CSS Exam**

Before discussing the selection of optional subjects, it is essential to understand the CSS exam. The exam consists of two parts: compulsory and optional subjects. The compulsory subjects include

- 1. English Essay,
- 2. English Composition,
- 3. General Science & Ability,
- 4. Current Affairs,
- 5. Pakistan Affairs, and
- 6. Islamic Studies/Moral

In contrast, the optional subjects consist of six papers, and candidates have to choose two subjects (100 marks each) or one subject (200 marks) from the list of available subjects in the <u>CSS Syllabus 2024</u>, <u>HERE</u>

# Some additional Tips for Selecting Optional Subjects

Here are some more tips for selecting optional subjects for the CSS exam:

### **1. Choose Your Interest**

The first and foremost factor to consider while selecting optional subjects is your interest. You should choose subjects that you are passionate about and have a



keen interest in. This will make your preparation easier, and you will be more motivated to study.

#### 2. Check the Syllabus

It is essential to thoroughly check the syllabus of each subject before making a final decision. The syllabus will give you an idea about the topics covered in the subject and the level of difficulty. You should choose subjects that have a comprehensive syllabus and are relevant to your field of study.

#### **3. Consult with Experts**

It is always helpful to consult with experts and seniors who have already taken the CSS exam. They can guide you on the selection of optional subjects based on their experience and knowledge.

### 4. Analyze Past Papers

Analyzing past papers of optional subjects can give you an idea about the type of questions asked in the exam. This can help you to choose subjects that have a higher probability of scoring well in the exam.

### **5. Balance Your Subjects**

While selecting optional subjects, it is essential to balance your subjects. You should choose subjects that complement each other and give you a broader knowledge base. For example, if you choose History as one subject, you should balance it with a subject like International Relations.

# **Best Optional Subjects for CSS in Pakistan**

In order to excel in the CSS exam in Pakistan, having a comprehensive understanding of certain optional subjects is essential. Here are some of the most beneficial optional subjects for the CSS exam. There are ever-green CSS Optional Subjects that can assist you in many ways during your CSS journey. So, some of the best optional subjects for the CSS exam in Pakistan are the following:

1. International Relations



- 2. Political Science
- 3. Journalism and Mass Communication
- 4. Sociology
- 5. Anthropology
- 6. Public Administration (With Political Sci)
- 7. Law (Esp: Intl. law with IR)
- 8. Gender Studies
- 9. Agriculture & Forestry
- 10. Psychology
- 11. Economics
- 12. Geography
- 13. Philosophy
- 14. History (US History with IR)
- 15. Regional Subjects (Punjabi, Pashto, Sindhi, and Balochi)
- 16. (You can also enlist the optional subjects that brought you outstanding marks in your attempt, please comment those in the box below)

#### VISIT HERE for [] **Deep Analysis of CSS Compulsory and Optional Subjects**

#### **1. International Relations**

International Relations is a popular subject among CSS candidates. It covers a wide range of topics related to the political, economic, and social interactions between states. International Relations (IR) is a field of study that examines the interactions among states, international organizations, multinational corporations, non-governmental organizations, and individuals. It is concerned with the causes and consequences of these interactions, as well as their management and regulation. IR also examines the nature of international power and the distribution of power among actors in the international system. It focuses on the behaviour of both state and non-state actors, and the relationships between them. It is an interdisciplinary field of study that draws on theories and methods from political science, economics, history, sociology, anthropology, and International law etc.



#### 2. Political Science

Political Science is a subject that covers topics related to the political system, including political theory, political institutions, and political behaviour. Political Science is a branch of the social sciences that focuses on the study of government and political behavior. It is a broad field that encompasses the study of governments, their policies, and the people who shape them. It is also concerned with power relations, social movements, and international relations. Political Science is an important subject for those preparing for the CSS (Central Superior Services) Pakistan Exam as it is a major component of the curriculum. The covers topics such as international relations, comparative politics, public administration, and political economy. As such, a thorough understanding of Political Science is essential for success in the CSS exam.

#### **3. Journalism and Mass Communication**

Journalism and Mass Communication is a relatively new subject in CSS, but it is gaining popularity due to the growing importance of media in modern society. Journalism and Mass Communication is a growing field of study that is increasingly important in the modern world. It has become a major area of study in CSS Pakistan exam due to its relevance to the evolving media landscape. CSS Pakistan exam covers various aspects of journalism, including news reporting, media literacy, media law, media ethics, and media regulation. Candidates who take up this subject are expected to demonstrate a good understanding of the various aspects of journalism, as well as how to effectively utilize the media for the benefit of society. Candidates must also demonstrate an ability to evaluate and analyze media content, as well as develop strategies for the effective use of media in various contexts.

#### 4. Sociology

Sociology is another popular subject among CSS candidates. It covers topics related to human society, including social structures, culture, and social inequality. Sociology is the scientific study of human social life, groups, and societies. It examines the impact of social dynamics on individuals, relationships, and institutions. It is a critical field of study for CSS Pakistan Exam as it provides a comprehensive understanding of the social and economic issues in the country. Through its analysis of the social structure and dynamics, sociology offers a



unique insight into the complexities of Pakistani society and the challenges it faces.

#### 5. Anthropology

Anthropology is the study of human beings and their societies. It covers a wide range of topics, including human evolution, culture, and social behaviour.

#### 6. Public Administration

Public Administration is a subject that deals with the management of public institutions and government agencies. It covers topics like administrative theory, organizational behaviour, and public policy. It is an important and highly relevant subject for those aspiring to join the Civil Services of Pakistan. It provides an indepth understanding of the administrative principles and practices of the government, and the tools and techniques used in public administration. It is essential for students to understand the complexities of the public sector, and the need to manage it effectively. The CSS Pakistan exam requires the applicants to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of public administration, and the ability to apply it in real-life scenarios.

#### 7. Law

Law is a subject that covers a wide range of topics related to the legal system, including International Law, criminology, civil law, and constitutional law.

#### 8. Gender Studies

Gender Studies is a subject that deals with the study of gender identity, roles, and relations in society. It covers topics related to gender inequality, feminist theories, and gender-based violence.

#### 9. Agriculture & Forestry

Agriculture & Forestry is a subject that covers topics related to farming, animal husbandry, and forestry. It includes crop production, animal nutrition, and forest management.



#### **10. Psychology**

Psychology is a subject that deals with the study of the human mind and behavior. It covers topics related to cognitive psychology, social psychology, and developmental psychology.

#### **11. Economics**

Economics is a subject that covers topics related to the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. It includes microeconomics, macroeconomics, and international economics.

### 12. Geography

Geography is a subject that covers topics related to the physical and human characteristics of the earth. It includes physical geography, human geography, and environmental geography.

### 13. Philosophy

Philosophy is a subject that deals with fundamental questions about existence, knowledge, and ethics. It covers topics like metaphysics, epistemology, and ethics.

### 14. History

History is an important subject for the CSS Pakistan exam, as it covers the study of past events and how those events have shaped our present and future. The exam includes the study of world history, Islamic history and culture, British history, European history, and the history of the United States. It is important to understand the past in order to develop an understanding of the current political, economic, and social issues that are facing us today. The history portion of the CSS Pakistan exam tests a candidate's knowledge of the major events and individuals that have shaped the world. By gaining a solid understanding of history, candidates can better understand the present and prepare for the future. Their syllabus is often very short and they are considered very high-scoring subjects esp; History of the USA with IR is highly recommended by academies.



#### **15. Regional Subjects**

Regional subjects such as Punjabi, Pashto, Sindhi, and Balochi are an essential part of Pakistan's diverse cultural heritage. These subjects cover the study of regional language, literature, and culture, and help in promoting the rich traditions of these regions. Moreover, studying these subjects can also help in improving communication and interaction with the local population, making it a valuable option to consider while selecting optional subjects for CSS and PMS exams. Additionally, these subjects offer an excellent opportunity to score well, as the examiners often show a preference for promoting regional languages and cultures.

#### Are Regional (Punjabi, Pashto, Sindhi, and Balochi) Subjects really scoring in Competitive Exams?

Yes, it is true that regional subjects such as Punjabi, Pashto, Sindhi, and Balochi are highly scoring, and candidates can achieve excellent marks in these subjects, as examiners often show a preference towards promoting their regional languages. Additionally, candidates who may not have a background in these languages can still excel in these subjects with a little bit of hard work and dedication, making it a viable option to consider while selecting optional subjects for CSS and PMS exams.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, choosing the right optional subjects requires careful consideration of various aspects such as educational background, interests, strengths, and weaknesses. Candidates should make a well-informed decision to increase their chances of success in the CSS and PMS competitive exams. The selection of optional subjects is a crucial decision that candidates have to make while preparing for the CSS exam in Pakistan. In this article, we have discussed some tips for selecting optional subjects and the best subjects for CSS in Pakistan. We hope that this article will help you make an informed decision about selecting optional subjects for the CSS exam.



### FAQs

#### 1. How many optional subjects can I choose for the CSS exam?

• You can choose two optional subjects for the CSS exam.

#### 2. Is it necessary to choose subjects related to my field of study?

- It is not necessary, but it can be helpful to choose subjects related to your field of study.
- 3. Can I change my optional subjects after submitting the application form?
  - No, you cannot change your optional subjects after submitting the application form.

# 4. What is the best way to prepare for optional subjects in the CSS exam?

• The best way to prepare for optional subjects is to study the syllabus thoroughly and practice past papers.

# 5. Are some optional subjects more scoring than others in the CSS exam?

• Yes, some optional subjects are considered more scoring than others in the CSS exam. However, it ultimately depends on your preparation and understanding of the subject.

# **List of ALL OPTIONAL CSS Syllabus 2024**



### **SUBJECTS (600 MARKS)**

#### Group-I: (To select one subject of (200 marks) only)

Code No.	Subject	Marks
11.	Accountancy & Auditing	200
12.	Economics	200
13.	Computer Science	200
14.	Political Science	200
15.	International Relations	200

#### Group-II: (To select subject(s) of <u>200 marks</u> only)

Code No.	Subject	Marks
16.	Physics	200
17.	Chemistry	200
18.	Applied Mathematics	100
19.	Pure Mathematics	100
20.	Statistics	100
21.	Geology	100

#### Group-III: (To select one subject of **<u>100 marks</u>** only)

Code No.	Subject	Marks
22.	<b>Business Administration</b>	100
23.	Public Administration	100
24.	Governance & Public Policies	100
25.	Town Planning & Urban Management	100

#### Group-IV: (To select one subject of **<u>100 marks</u>** only)

Code No.	Subject	Marks
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26.	History of Pakistan & India	100
27.	Islamic History & Culture	100
28.	British History	100
29.	European History	100
30.	History of USA	100

#### Group-V: (To select one subject of **<u>100 marks</u>** only)

Code No.	Subject	Marks
31.	Gender Studies	100
32.	<b>Environmental Sciences</b>	100
33.	Agriculture & Forestry	100
34.	Botany	100
35.	Zoology	100
36.	English Literature	100
37.	Urdu Literature	100

#### Group-VI: (To select one subject of **<u>100 marks</u>** only)

Code No.	Subject	Marks
38.	Law	100
39.	Constitutional Law	100
40.	International Law	100
41.	Muslim Law & Jurisprudence	100
42.	Mercantile Law	100
43.	Criminology	100
44.	Philosophy	100

#### Group-VII: (To select one subject of <u>100 marks</u> only)

Code No.	Subject	Marks
45.	Journalism & Mass Communication	100
46.	Psychology	100
47.	Geography	100



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48.	Sociology	100
49.	Anthropology	100
50.	Punjabi	100
51.	Sindhi	100
52.	Pashto	100
53.	Balochi	100
54.	Persian	100
55.	Arabic	100

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