KNOW YOUR OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

Choosing the right optional subjects for the CSS exam is critical to your success. It's often said that making the right subject selection can be half the battle won. However, this decision should not be made too early or left until the last minute. Aspirants frequently find themselves overwhelmed, especially when they get caught up in misleading ideas like "scoring trends." Since the 2013 paper pattern change and the 2016 syllabus revision, subject selection has become even more crucial. These changes have left many aspirants struggling with simple yet technical questions, highlighting that only a well-prepared and strategic mind can score well

The key to success lies in choosing subjects that align with your strengths and interests rather than relying on trends. It's important to remember that what works for one person may not work for another. Therefore, your decision should be based on a clear understanding of your capabilities, interests, and the nature of the subject.

Here are some essential factors to consider when finalizing your optional subjects, in order of importance:

1. Educational Background – Choose subjects where you already have a strong foundation, as this will make preparation smoother.
2. Personal Interest – Opt for subjects that genuinely captivate you; your interest in the material will drive better understanding and retention.
3. Scoring Trend – While it's tempting to follow the so-called "scoring subjects," focus on this factor only to a limited extent. A well-prepared candidate can score well in any subject.

Before making your decision, familiarize yourself with the syllabi and topics of your potential optional subjects. A solid understanding of the content will not only help you choose wisely but will also reduce the stress associated with subject selection.

With 7 groups and 55 subjects available, the key to success lies in understanding which subjects align best with your strengths and interests. Let's explore your options.

Note: Before selecting your optional subjects, it is essential to thoroughly review the CSS syllabus provided by the Federal Public Service Commission (FPSC). You can download the latest syllabus directly from the official FPSC website at fpsc.gov.pk. This syllabus will give you a comprehensive understanding of the topics covered in each subject, helping you make an informed decision based on your strengths and interests. By carefully going through the syllabus, you can assess which subjects align with your background and areas of interest, ultimately reducing the stress of preparation and enhancing your chances of success. best page title for the above text

How To Choose Optional Subjects In CSS?

Complete analysis of all subjects. Scoring and Overlapping subjects.

Group 1 High scoring Subjects

Subjects	Prerequisite	Nature of Subject	Scoring	Overlaps
Physics	Yes	Long Syllabus Close-ended	High	None
Chemistry	Yes	Long Syllabus Closed-ended	High	None
Applied Math	Yes	Long Syllabus Closed-ended	Low	None
Pure Mathematics	Yes	Long Syllabus Closed-ended	Low to medium	None
Statistics	Yes	Long syllabus Closed-ended	Medium	None
Geography	Yes	Long Syllabus Open-Ended	Good	Geography

Group 2 High Scoring Subject

Subjects	Prerequisite	Nature of Subject	Scoring	Overlaps
Accounting & Auditing	Yes	Long Syllabus Close-ended	High	None
Economics	Yes	Long Syllabus Closed-ended	High	Essay, PA, CA
Computer Science	Yes	Long Syllabus Closed-ended	High	None
International Relations	No	Long Syllabus Open -ended (Mostly)	Low to Good (Mixed)	Essay, PA, CA, US History, International Law
Political Science	No	Long syllabus Closed-ended (Mostly)	High (Mostly)	Essay, PA CA, Sociology, Gender, Public Admin, Governance, US History, Constitutional Law

Group 3 High Scoring Subject

Subjects	Prerequisite	Nature of Subject	Scoring	Overlaps
Business Administration	Yes	Long Syllabus Close-ended	High	None
Public Administration	No	Long Syllabus Closed-ended	Medium	Essay, PA, CA, Political Science
Governance And Public Policy	NO	Long Syllabus Open -ended	Good	Essay, PA, CA, Political Science
Town Planning	No	Long Syllabus Open -ended (partially)	Medium Mixed	Geography

Group 4 High Scoring Subject

Subjects	Prerequisite	Nature of Subject	Scoring	Overlaps
Indo-Pak History	No	Long Syllabus Close-ended (Partially)	Medium (Mixed)	Essay, PA, CA, Political Science
Islamic History	No	Long Syllabus Closed-ended (Partially)	Medium	Islamic studies
British History	No	Long Syllabus Closed-ended (Partially)	Medium	Essay, Political Science, IR
European History	No	Long Syllabus Open -ended (Mostly)	Good	Essay, IR, Political Science
US History	No	Medium syllabus Closed-ended (Mostly)	Medium to high	Essay, PA CA, Political Science

Group 5 High scoring Subjects

Subjects	Prerequisite	Nature of Subject	Scoring	Overlaps
Gender Studies	NO	Medium Syllabus Close-ended (Partially)	Good (Mixed)	Essay, PA, CA, Political Science, Anthropology
Environmental Science	Partially yes	Long Syllabus Closed-ended	Medium	Essay, CA, Geography
Agriculture And Forestry	Partially yes	Medium Syllabus Closed-ended	Mixed	None
Botany	Yes	Medium Syllabus Closed-ended	Good	None
Zoology	Yes	Long syllabus Closed-ended	Good	None
English Literature	Yes	Long Syllabus Open-Ended	Medium	Essay
Urdu Literature	Yes	Long syllabus Closed-ended (Partially)	Medium	None

Group 6 High scoring Subjects

Subjects	Prerequisite	Nature of Subject	Scoring	Overlaps
Law	Yes	Long Syllabus Close-ended (Partially)	Good	None
Constitutional Law	No	Medium Syllabus Closed-ended	Good	Essay, CA, PA, Political Science, US History, Indo-Pak History
International Law	No	Medium Syllabus Closed-ended	Medium Mixed	Essay, CA, IR
Muslim law & Jurisprudence	Partially Yes	Medium Syllabus Closed-ended	Good	Islamic studies
Mercantile Law	Yes	Long syllabus Closed-ended	Good	None
Criminology	No	Medium Syllabus Open-Ended	Good	Essay, Sociology
Philosophy	Partially Yes	Short syllabus Closed-ended (Partially)	Good	Political Science

Group 7 High scoring Subjects

Subjects	Prerequisite	Nature of Subject	Scoring	Overlaps
Journalism & Mass Com.	No	Long Syllabus Close-ended (Partially)	Good	Essay
Psychology	Yes Partially	Long Syllabus Closed-ended	Good	None
Geography	Yes Partially	Long Syllabus Closed-ended	Medium Mixed	Economics, Environmental science
Sociology	No	Medium Syllabus Open-Ended (partially)	High	Essay, PA, Political Science, Gender, Criminology
Anthropology	NO	Long Syllabus Close-ended (Partially)	Good mixed	Essay, Political Science, Gender, Economics, town Planning
All languages	Yes	Medium Syllabus Open-Ended	Medium to high	No

List of Highest Scoring Subjects in the CSS Exam

1. Political science
2. Sociology
3. Economics
4. Computer Science
5. Accounting And Auditing
6. Business Administration
7. USA History
8. Governance And Public Policy
9. Psychology
10. Criminology
11. Zoology
12. Journalism And Mass Communication
13. Constitutional Law
14. Regional Languages (Punjabi, Pashto, Sindhi, Balochi)