

Advanced Ethics by SOMP

The August 2025 Mains was more than just a tough paper; it was a clear signal from UPSC. The era of simply knowing ethical terms is over. The new frontier is **ethical reasoning**—the ability to analyze, argue, and justify your decisions under immense pressure.

If you've covered the basics but know that your preparation needs a serious upgrade to meet this new standard, this program was built for you.

Welcome to the **Advanced Ethics Program**, a month-long intensive designed to reforge your understanding of GS Paper IV. Our goal is not to just teach you ethics, but to teach you how to *think* ethically using following innovative tools that makes this program uniquely catered to you:

Flipped Learning Model : Ethics is not taught, its learned

- **Before Class:** You will engage with foundational concepts through curated, thought-provoking materials—think critical articles from *The Atlantic*, not just standard book chapters.
- **During Class:** Our 2 hours together become a dynamic and engaging learning experience. We won't be lecturing; we'll be learning, deconstructing complex case studies, stress-testing solutions, and engaging in the kind of deep analysis that actually builds skill.

This model transforms you from a passive listener into an active participant. It ensures every minute of our live interaction is dedicated to higher-order thinking.

The Analytical & Applied Workbook

This isn't a notebook for taking notes. It's an **intellectual gym**. For every lecture, your workbook will guide you through:

- **Critical Inquiry:** Engaging with pre-reading material to form your own opinions *before* the lecture.
- **Strategic Deconstruction:** Breaking down PYQs to understand their hidden demands and potential traps.
- **The Devil's Advocate Drill:** A unique exercise where you actively critique your own solutions to find their weaknesses—a crucial skill for robust decision-making.
- **360 thinking :** To simulate real-world situations and forcing you to communicate your complex ethical analysis in a clear, concise, and actionable format.

Other Program Specifics

- **Lectures:** 12 advanced lectures (9 on Theory, 3 on Case Studies) built on the Flipped Classroom model.

- **Schedule:** 3 classes per week (Mon, Wed, Fri) to sync with your answer writing practice, starting September 8th.
- **Duration:** 2 hours of intensive, interactive discussion and application per class.
- **Core Tool:** The **Analytical & Applied Workbook**—your daily training ground for developing elite-level ethical reasoning.

Detailed Lecture Schedule (September 2025)

The 12 lectures are scheduled for **Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays** to ensure a seamless flow with your daily answer writing practice. This rhythm allows you to learn and refine the concepts at the beginning and middle of the week, then apply them in your daily writing tasks.

Week	Lecture	Date & Day	Core Topics	Advanced Focus & Methodology	Sync with Answer Writing Schedule
0	0	Sept 5, Friday	Orientation Session	Strategy and program philosophy.	Common session
1	1	Sep 8, Mon	Ethics & Human Dimensions	Deconstructing the essence of ethics beyond bookish definitions. Analyzing real-world examples of ethical dilemmas in public and private life.	Covers topics for Sep 8 (Ethics Interface) & Sep 9 (Dimensions of Ethics).
	2	Sep 10, Wed	Human Values & Their Inculcation	A deep dive into the practical application of values from leaders' lives. Critically analyzing the modern roles of family and education in value formation.	Covers topics for Sep 10 (Human Values from Leaders) & Sep 11 (Role of Family, Society).

	3	Sep 12, Fri	Attitude, Influence & Persuasion	Moving beyond content and structure to the psycho-social aspects of attitude formation. Analyzing case studies of successful social influence campaigns.	Covers topics for Sep 12 (Attitude) & Sep 15 (Moral/Political Attitudes).
2	4	Sep 15, Mon	Foundational Values for Civil Service - Part I	Analyzing the practical dilemmas associated with Integrity, Objectivity, Impartiality, and Non-partisanship using real administrative case snippets.	Covers topics for Sep 16 (Integrity, Objectivity) & Sep 17 (Impartiality, Non-partisanship).
	5	Sep 17, Wed	Foundational Values for Civil Service - Part II	Focusing on the "human touch" in administration: Empathy, Tolerance, and Compassion. Discussing strategies to develop and display these values under pressure.	Covers topics for Sep 17 (Dedication) & Sep 18 (Empathy, Tolerance, Compassion).
	6	Sep 19, Fri	Emotional Intelligence (EI) in Governance	Masterclass on applying EI concepts. We will analyze administrative situations where EI is the key differentiator between a good and a great officer.	Perfectly syncs with the topic for Sep 19 (Emotional Intelligence).
3	7	Sep 22, Mon	Moral Thinkers & Philosophers	Linking classical philosophies (e.g., Kant's Categorical Imperative, Gandhian ethics) to contemporary administrative and policy-making challenges.	Perfectly syncs with the topic for Sep 22 (Contributions of Moral Thinkers).

	8	Sep 24, Wed	Probity & Ethics in Public Administration	A practical examination of governance tools like RTI and Codes of Conduct. Discussing how to build an ethical ecosystem within an organization.	Covers topics for Sep 23 (Public Service Values) & Sep 24 (Probity in Governance).
	9	Sep 26, Fri	Work Culture, Service Delivery & Corruption	Analyzing the root causes of corruption and poor work culture. Brainstorming innovative, technology-driven solutions for quality service delivery.	Covers topics for Sep 25 (Citizen's Charters) & Sep 26 (Corruption).
4	10	Sep 29, Mon	Case Studies Masterclass - Part I: The Decision-Making Toolkit	Introducing robust frameworks (Stakeholder Analysis, Ethical Matrix, Consequence Mapping) to systematically deconstruct any case study.	Lays the foundation for the entire case study week, starting with Sep 29 (Administrative Dilemmas).
	11	Oct 1, Wed	Case Studies Masterclass - Part II: Thematic Application	Applying the frameworks to diverse themes: Administrative, Governance, Social dilemmas, and those requiring high Emotional Intelligence.	Aligns with practice topics for Sep 29, Sep 30 (Social & Ethical Dilemmas), and Oct 1 (EI Application).
	12	Oct 3, Fri	Case Studies Masterclass - Part III: Handling Complexity	Tackling complex, multi-layered case studies involving Corporate Governance, International Ethics, and other atypical scenarios to make you exam-ready.	Perfectly syncs with final practice topics for Oct 2 & Oct 3, right before the full test.

Synchronization with Answer writing course

This schedule ensures that the advanced course and the answer writing program are perfectly harmonized. The theoretical lectures (1-9) are front-loaded into the first three weeks, directly corresponding to the weekly topics of your writing practice. This allows you to gain deeper insights in the lecture and immediately apply that advanced understanding to the five daily questions you practice.

The final week is dedicated entirely to mastering case studies. Our three-part masterclass series runs in parallel, first providing you with the analytical tools (Lecture 10) and then guiding you through their application on diverse themes (Lectures 11 & 12). This builds your skills progressively, culminating just in time for you to confidently tackle the

Full-Length Test on October 4th.