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MA Urdu Syllabus and Entrance Comparison

JMI AMU CUET PG LAQP37

A subject-wise preparation guide based on the published AMU and NTA syllabi, with a current-status JMI framework for the 2027-28 entrance cycle.

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Entrance routes at a glance

Route	Published paper or status	Main emphasis	Preparation approach
JMI	Final 2027-28 M.A. Urdu syllabus awaited on the official portal	Expected B.A.-level Urdu language, literary history, genres, writers and criticism	Complete the common core, then align it with the final JMI notice
AMU	Official M.A. Urdu admission-test syllabus	Prose, poetry, literary history, criticism, grammar, rhetoric and essay	Revise prescribed authors and texts along with concepts and chronology
CUET-PG	Urdu LAQP37	Ten undergraduate-level domains; 75 compulsory subject questions in Urdu	Practise Urdu-medium objective questions across every listed domain

Common syllabus for all three entrances

Unit	Topics to prepare
1	Urdu grammar, vocabulary, spelling, idioms, sentence correction, comprehension and precise usage.



Unit	Topics to prepare
2	History and origin of Urdu; major theories; development in the Deccan, North India, Delhi and Lucknow.
3	Poetic genres: ghazal, nazm, qasida, marsiya, masnavi, rubai and their structure and development.
4	Prose genres: dastan, novel, short story, drama, essay, biography, autobiography, letters and travel writing.
5	Classical and modern poets; author-work identification, period, style and major contribution.
6	Major prose writers and representative fiction; movements, themes, narrative methods and literary importance.
7	Literary movements and trends: Fort William College, Delhi College, Sir Syed movement, Progressive Writers, modernism and later trends.
8	Urdu criticism: meaning, development, major critics, critical schools and practical literary appreciation.
9	Rhetoric, prosody and literary terms: figures of speech, imagery, symbol, allusion, metre, dialogue, plot and character.
10	Essay, translation and objective practice in Urdu, including regional Urdu literature where specified.

JMI preparation framework

Until JMI posts its final M.A. Urdu entrance document, use the following framework as the minimum complete coverage. It is deliberately broad enough to support objective questions based on the undergraduate Urdu curriculum.

Area	Recommended coverage	Priority
Language	Grammar, orthography, vocabulary, idioms, comprehension and sentence usage	Very high
Literary history	Origin and development of Urdu; Deccan, Delhi, Lucknow and modern periods	Very high
Poetry	Forms, movements, major poets, representative works and stylistic features	Very high
Prose	Dastan, novel, short story, drama, essay, letters, biography and autobiography	Very high
Criticism	Hali, Shibli and later critical traditions; terminology and schools	High
Movements	Sir Syed movement, Progressive movement, modernism and contemporary trends	High



Area	Recommended coverage	Priority
Literary terms	Rhetoric, prosody, figures of speech, plot, character, symbol, imagery and allusion	High
Current component	Any general awareness, current literary affairs or additional section only if named by JMI	Verify

JMI revision checklist

- Prepare a chronological chart from early Dakhni literature to contemporary Urdu.
- Create author cards recording life period, genre, major works and one distinctive feature.
- Revise definitions and development of every major poetic and prose genre.
- Practise Urdu-medium MCQs, author-work matching, chronology and passage-based questions.
- Compare the final JMI document with this framework before beginning the last revision cycle.

High-yield writers for the common core

Category	Representative names
Classical poetry	Wali Dakhni, Mir, Sauda, Dard, Ghalib, Momin, Atish and Anis
Modern poetry	Hali, Iqbal, Josh, Faiz, N. M. Rashid, Akhtar-ul-Iman and Nasir Kazmi
Fiction	Nazir Ahmad, Premchand, Krishan Chander, Manto, Rajinder Singh Bedi, Ismat Chughtai and Qurratulain Hyder
Criticism and prose	Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, Shibli Nomani, Abul Kalam Azad, Hali and major modern critics

AMU official syllabus

AMU organises the M.A. Urdu admission syllabus into five sections. The summary below follows that official structure and keeps the named domains visible for revision.

Section A Urdu prose

Domain	Official focus condensed for preparation
Early and classical prose	Beginnings of Urdu prose, early Dakhni prose, important prose traditions and selected classical texts.
Modern prose	Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, Shibli Nomani, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Hali and the development of modern Urdu prose.
Novel and short story	Origin and development; major novelists and short-story writers including Nazir Ahmad, Premchand, Mirza Hadi Ruswa, Krishan Chander, Manto, Bedi, Ismat Chughtai, Intizar Husain and Qurratulain Hyder.



Domain	Official focus condensed for preparation
Drama	Origin and evolution of Urdu drama and important dramatists and works.
Non-fiction forms	Letters, biography, autobiography, travel writing, humour and satire, essays and other prose forms.

Section B Urdu poetry

Domain	Official focus condensed for preparation
Ghazal	Nature, form, origin and history; Dakhni, Delhi and Lucknow traditions; representative classical and modern ghazal poets.
Iqbal and modern poets	Life, thought, works and literary contribution of Allama Iqbal and other major twentieth-century poets.
Masnavi	Definition, components, technique and historical development; representative texts and poets.
Nazm	Definition, development and modern forms; Hali, Iqbal, Josh, Faiz, N. M. Rashid, Akhtar-ul-Iman and related poets.
Qasida and marsiya	Form, artistic conventions, historical development and major practitioners, including the Lucknow marsiya tradition.

AMU sections C D and E

Section C History of Urdu language and literature

- Origin of Urdu and the major theories concerning its beginnings.
- Urdu in the Deccan, Gujarat, North India, Delhi and Lucknow.
- Development of prose and poetry across major historical periods.
- Fort William College, Delhi College and the services of important institutions.
- Sir Syed movement, Progressive Writers' Movement, modernism and post-modern trends.

Section D Introduction to Urdu criticism

- Meaning, definition, need and development of Urdu literary criticism.
- Major forms and schools of criticism, including impressionistic, historical and practical approaches.
- Critical contribution of Hali, Shibli, Muhammad Husain Azad and major modern Urdu critics.
- Introductory knowledge of selected Western critical thinkers named in the prescribed outline.

Section E Essay grammar and rhetoric

Area	Topics
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Area	Topics
Rhetoric	Meaning and history of balaghat; simile, metaphor, metonymy, allusion and other figures of speech.
Grammar	Word formation, derivation, gender, number, compounds, sentence construction, spelling and usage.
Prosody	Introductory aruz, metre, rhyme, refrain and the technical structure of Urdu verse.
Essay	Organisation, argument, language accuracy, literary topics and clear expression in Urdu.

How AMU is distinctive

- AMU gives equal visibility to prose, poetry, history, criticism and language skills.
- The official outline names representative writers and, in places, prescribed works; exact attribution matters.
- Essay, grammar, rhetoric and prosody require active practice rather than factual memorisation alone.

CUET PG Urdu LAQP37 official syllabus

NTA states that LAQP37 contains 75 compulsory questions, all based on subject-specific knowledge, and that the question paper is in Urdu. The syllabus is based on the undergraduate Urdu curriculum from 2017 onward.

No	Official domain	Preparation focus
1	Poetic genres	Definition and development of ghazal, qasida, masnavi, marsiya and nazm.
2	Prose genres	Dastan, inshaiya, novel, short story, drama, biography and autobiography.
3	Urdu language and literary history	Origin and development; Deccan, North India, Delhi, Lucknow and Fort William College.
4	Movements and trends	Sir Syed movement, Progressive movement and modernism.
5	Major ghazal poets	Wali, Mir, Atish, Ghalib, Iqbal, Faiz and Nasir Kazmi.
6	Major nazm poets	Nazeer Akbarabadi, Hali, Iqbal, N. M. Rashid, Faiz and Akhtar-ul-Iman.
7	Urdu criticism	Development of criticism; Hali, Shibli and Progressive criticism.
8	Major prose writers	Nazir Ahmad, Premchand, Krishan Chander, Manto, Bedi and Ismat Chughtai.
9	Urdu in Jammu and Kashmir	Importance of Urdu language, poetry, prose and journalism in Jammu and Kashmir.
10	Literary terminology	Figures of speech, imagery, symbol, allusion, prosody, dialogue, plot, representation and character.



CUET PG preparation strategy

- Read and answer in Urdu every day because the entire paper is in Urdu.
- Do not omit Jammu and Kashmir Urdu literature; it is a separate official domain.
- Revise definitions together with examples from well-known writers and works.
- Use mixed 75-question mocks so all ten domains remain active in memory.

7 Topic by topic comparison

Topic	JMI framework	AMU official	CUET PG official
Language and grammar	High	Explicit section	Applied across paper
History of Urdu	Very high	Dedicated section	Explicit domain
Poetic genres	Very high	Detailed section	Explicit domain
Prose genres	Very high	Detailed section	Explicit domain
Named poets and writers	High	Extensive and text-linked	Specified lists
Criticism	High	Dedicated section	Explicit domain
Rhetoric and prosody	High	Explicit section	Literary terminology
Literary movements	High	Historical section	Explicit domain
Jammu and Kashmir	Useful context	Not a separate main section	Dedicated domain
Essay or composition	Recommended	Explicit	Not separately specified

Priority matrix

Priority	Study block	Reason
A	History of Urdu and literary periods	Direct overlap across all three routes.
A	Poetic and prose genres	Definitions, development and examples are repeatedly tested.
A	Major writers and works	Essential for attribution, matching and chronology questions.



Priority	Study block	Reason
A	Urdu-medium objective practice	Required for speed and precision in CUET-PG and useful elsewhere.
B	Criticism, movements and literary terms	Strong common overlap with distinct named critics and trends.
B	Grammar, rhetoric and prosody	Especially important for AMU and language-based objective questions.
B	Urdu in Jammu and Kashmir	A separate CUET-PG syllabus area.
C	Any additional JMI component	Add only after the final official JMI notice is published.

Ten-week integrated study plan

Week	Main target	Required output
1	Grammar diagnostic, vocabulary, literary terms and origin theories	Error log and language timeline
2	Dakhni literature, Delhi and Lucknow traditions	Period chart and 100 MCQs
3	Ghazal, qasida, marsiya and masnavi	Genre sheets and poet cards
4	Nazm and major classical and modern poets	Author-work map and sectional test
5	Dastan, novel and short story	Genre chronology and fiction cards
6	Drama, essay, biography, autobiography, letters and travel writing	Prose-form comparison sheet
7	Sir Syed movement, Progressivism, modernism and later trends	Movement matrix and 100 MCQs
8	Urdu criticism, rhetoric and prosody	Critic chart and terminology test
9	Urdu in Jammu and Kashmir; AMU prescribed writers and works	CUET regional notes and AMU revision list
10	JMI, AMU and CUET-PG full revision	Three full mocks and final error review

Daily minimum routine

Task	Suggested time
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Task	Suggested time
Urdu reading, vocabulary and grammar	30 minutes
Literary history or author-work revision	45 minutes
Genre, criticism or literary terminology	30 minutes
MCQs and error review	30 minutes

Official references

JMI entrance syllabus portal: <https://admission.jmi.ac.in/EntranceResults/UniversityEntranceSyllabus>

AMU admission-test syllabus portal: <https://results.amucontrollerexams.com/result/syllabus>

AMU M.A. Urdu official syllabus PDF: https://results.amucontrollerexams.com/papers/photos/MA_Urdu.pdf

NTA CUET-PG language syllabi: <https://exams.nta.nic.in/cuet-pg/syllabus/language/>

NTA Urdu LAQP37 official syllabus PDF:

<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s388a839f2f6f1427879fc33ee4acf4f66/uploads/2025/12/20251213437305139.pdf>

Important note

Admission authorities may revise eligibility, test pattern, marking scheme, language or syllabus. Use this preparation guide with the latest official prospectus, programme notice, information bulletin and admit-card instructions.

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