

For exams January, May and November onwards  
For teaching from September 2025 onwards

SPECIFICATION >



Learning  
Resource Network



# LRN INTERNATIONAL GCSE **PAKISTAN STUDIES** **[2107]**

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## BACKGROUND TO LRN

Learning Resource Network (LRN) is a recognised Awarding Organisation that offers a range of qualifications to candidates, educational institutes, training providers, schools and employers.

LRN is recognised for its high-quality qualifications that enable candidates to progress to other areas of study and employment in their designated fields.

In producing its qualifications, LRN uses the experience and expertise of academics, professionals working in the pertinent industries and assessment practitioners with a wealth of best practice and knowledge of validation, verification, delivery and assessment.

## MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

LRN has been awarded international accreditation as part of its quality controls, policies, systems and overall approach to its management systems. These awards are externally validated by the British Assessment Bureau. LRN has achieved accreditation in the form of ISO 9001: Quality Management Systems, ISO 14001: Environment Management Systems and ISO 27001: Information Security Management Systems.

## CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE

LRN has achieved the prestigious award of Customer Service Excellence. This is in recognition of its customer service practices, approach to managing and dealing with UK and Overseas customer needs, including the diverse needs of its centres.

LRN was the first UK Awarding Organisation to achieve Customer Service Excellence. Following reaccreditation in 2019, LRN received an award for Customer Service Excellence: Compliance Plus, demonstrating that LRN went above and beyond the delivery of its customer service principles.



## INTRODUCTION

This specification provides an overview to the LRN International GCSE Pakistan Studies<sup>1</sup>. This document is suitable for various users, including candidates, centres, administrators, employers, parents/guardians, teachers (and other related staff) and examiners. The specification outlines the key features and administrative procedures required for this international qualification.

## OBJECTIVE

The LRN International GCSE Pakistan Studies is designed to enable learners to demonstrate their ability to understand the historical, geographical and core foundations of Pakistan, the evolution of its constitution, and the principles of its foreign policy.

## MODE OF DELIVERY

This qualification has been constructed to be delivered within centres. Centres will need to demonstrate to LRN, through the centre recognition processes, that they have the resources, facilities and competence to deliver. However, centres must be able to demonstrate, in line with LRN's criteria, that they have the means, capability, capacity and resources (including suitably qualified centre staff) to deliver by the method chosen by the centre.

## PROGRESSION

The LRN International GCSE Pakistan Studies has been designed to reflect the wide variation in candidates' origins, levels of education and career aims. Progression opportunities may, therefore, take a variety of paths. Depending on the level of qualification achieved, it may be appropriate for the candidate to progress to:

1. Similar level 2 qualification in Pakistan Studies;
2. LRN Level 2 Certificate or Diploma in Pre-A Foundation Studies;
3. LRN Level 3 Diploma in Pre-U Foundation Studies;
4. A higher level of any qualification – e.g. A-Level, Diploma
5. Vocationally Related Qualifications

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<sup>1</sup> LRN International GCSEs are globally recognised qualifications designed specifically for international candidates and are available outside the United Kingdom. Candidates based in England refer to the Ofqual register.

## QUALIFICATION OVERVIEW

Number	Subject Content	AO	Exam
1	History of Pakistan	1 and 2	<b>Written exam paper</b> (externally set and marked)  <b>Paper:</b> Multiple Choice, Short Answer and Extended Response  Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes
2	Geography of Pakistan	1 and 2	
3	Economics of Pakistan	1 and 2	
4	Constitution of Pakistan	1 and 2	
5	Foreign Policy of Pakistan	1 and 2	
6	Current Perspectives and the Future of Pakistan	2 and 3	

## BREAKDOWN OF ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

**AO 1** – Learners must demonstrate accurate knowledge and understanding of Pakistan’s history, geography, economy, constitution, foreign policy, and current issues.

**AO 2** – Learners must apply their knowledge to analyse the interplay of historical, geographical, economic, and political developments, and assess their impact on Pakistan’s governance and global standing.

**AO 3** – Learners must critically assess and evaluate Pakistan’s current challenges and prospects, using historical context and present-day knowledge to explore potential future directions.

## ASSESSMENT

The assessment for this qualification consists of a single written exam paper, set and marked by the LRN.

Assessment objectives (AOs)	Weighting
AO1	30%
AO2	40%
AO3	30%

## GUIDED LEARNING HOURS

The guided learning hours (GLH) for this qualification are 130. Please note the hours stated are indicative.

## ENTRIES CODES

One entry per qualification is sufficient and will cover all the question papers including certification.

## PRIVATE CANDIDATES

Centres are advised that private candidates are only to be enrolled with prior agreement and confirmation from LRN.

## GRADING

Results are reported, as 9 to 1.

## RESULTS

Exam series are in:

- January (results released in March)
- June (results released in August)
- November (results released in January)

## RE-TAKES

Whereas candidates can re-take the whole qualification as often as they wish, individual components cannot be re-taken as it is a traditional linear specification.

Please remember, one entry per qualification is sufficient and will cover all the question papers including certification.

## CUSTOMER SERVICE STATEMENT

Learning Resource Network (LRN) is committed to ensuring all customers are dealt with promptly and in a professional and helpful manner. In order to guarantee this, we commit to ensuring the following in our day to day interactions with candidates, assessment centres and our stakeholder network:

- All customers will be treated equally and with respect;
- All customer information will only be used in a way which has been agreed in advance, unless we are informed of something that places them or others at risk of harm;
- All customers will be treated by staff in a professional manner.

LRN has arrangements in place to provide a telephone and e-mail helpdesk which will be staffed from 09:00 to 17:00 from Monday to Friday. Furthermore, it will respond to each e-mail, letter or telephone message it receives regarding feedback on its qualifications, centre approvals process or other matters relating to its products and/or services. The timetable for responding is as follows:

- E-mail: 10 working days
- Letter: 10 working days
- Telephone message: 5 working days

## DIVERSITY AND EQUALITY

Learning Resource Network (LRN) is committed to ensuring fair and equal access to its qualifications, examinations and support materials. Our Diversity and Equality policy seeks to eliminate unjustifiable discrimination, harassment and/or victimisation and to advance equality of opportunity, thereby ensuring all candidates are treated fairly, in accordance with the protected characteristics of the Equality Act 2010. Specifically, we comply fully with the requirements laid out in the Equality Act 2010. In addition, and within the constraints of this policy, LRN will have due regard for the General data Protection Regulations (GDPR) in the retention of information which is unnecessary.

1 History of Pakistan			
<b>Aim</b> <p>The aim of this subject content is to enable learners to understand the historical foundations of the Pakistan Movement, the political developments leading to the creation of Pakistan, and the post-independence challenges and transformations. Learners will explore key events, political ideologies, leadership roles, and national policies, and develop critical perspectives on their historical impact and legacy.</p>			
Learning Outcomes - The learner will:		Assessment Criteria - The learner can:	
1	Understand the historical context that shaped the Pakistan Movement.	1.1	Describe the decline of the Mughal Empire and the growing influence of British rule.
		1.2	Explain the socio-political anxieties and opportunities experienced by different communities.
2	Examine the emergence of Muslim political thought.	2.1	Explain the contributions of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan to Muslim education and political awareness.
		2.2	Discuss the development of the Urdu language in relation to Muslim identity.
		2.3	Analyse the concept of the Two-Nation Theory.
3	Explore early political organisation among Indian Muslims.	3.1	Explain the formation and objectives of the All-India Muslim League.
		3.2	Evaluate the significance of the Partition of Bengal and Morley-Minto Reforms.
4	Understand the early 20th-century evolution of the Pakistan Movement.	4.1	Describe the changing Hindu-Muslim relations, including the Lucknow Pact.
		4.2	Explain the causes and outcomes of the Khilafat Movement.
		4.3	Evaluate Jinnah's political role and the Lahore Resolution of 1940.
5	Analyse the struggle for Pakistan during the 1930s–1947.	5.1	Describe key events such as the Round Table Conferences and the Government of India Act 1935.
		5.2	Explain the impact of the 1945–46 elections and the Cabinet Mission Plan.



		5.3	Assess the roles of Jinnah, Iqbal, and other leaders in directing the movement.
6	Evaluate the post-independence challenges and developments in Pakistan.	6.1	Identify initial challenges such as the refugee crisis and Kashmir conflict.
		6.2	Explain the constitutional and political developments, highlighting shifts between democratic and military rule.
		6.3	Evaluate the significance of major policy eras including Bhutto and Zia's leadership.
		6.4	Assess Pakistan's foreign relations with India, Afghanistan, USA, and China.

2	Geography of Pakistan		
Aim			
The aim of this subject content is to develop learners' understanding of Pakistan's physical and human geography, the relationship between natural resources and human development, and the geographic and environmental challenges facing the nation. It promotes sustainable thinking in managing natural and man-made systems.			
Learning Outcomes - The learner will:		Assessment Criteria - The learner can:	
1	Understand the physical geography of Pakistan.	1.1	Identify the location, provinces, and major cities of Pakistan.
		1.2	Describe Pakistan's physical features including mountains, rivers, and plateaus.
		1.3	Explain the impact of climate patterns on agriculture and human activities.
2	Understand the significance and management of natural resources.	2.1	Explain the importance and distribution of water resources and the role of the Indus Water Treaty.
		2.2	Identify the major types of forests and evaluate issues related to deforestation and forest management.
		2.3	Describe the extraction and use of mineral resources and related environmental impacts.
		2.4	Explain fishing methods and the challenges of the fishing industry.
3	Evaluate Pakistan's energy resources and their sustainability.	3.1	Distinguish between renewable and non-renewable energy sources.
		3.2	Describe the extraction and distribution of coal, oil, and gas.
		3.3	Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of renewable energy (hydel, wind, solar).
4	Understand Pakistan's agricultural development.	4.1	Describe different types of agricultural systems (subsistence, cash crop, livestock).
		4.2	Identify major crops and livestock types, and their distribution and uses.

		4.3	Analyse natural and human factors affecting agricultural production.
5	Explore Pakistan's industrial development.	5.1	Define key industrial terms and classify industries into primary, secondary, and tertiary.
		5.2	Describe the location and contribution of major industries (cement, cotton, sugar, etc.).
		5.3	Differentiate between formal and informal economic sectors.
		5.4	Evaluate the potential and challenges of the tourism sector.
6	Understand Pakistan's trade and economic relations.	6.1	Identify major imports and exports and analyse trade trends.
		6.2	Explain factors affecting trade and identify key trading partners.
7	Assess the role of transport and telecommunications.	7.1	Describe major forms of internal and international transport (roads, railways, ports, airports).
		7.2	Evaluate the development and importance of telecommunication networks.
8	Understand population dynamics and employment.	8.1	Analyse Pakistan's population structure, growth trends, and distribution.
		8.2	Explain the causes and effects of rural-urban migration.
		8.3	Identify types of employment and assess the role of education and vocational training in economic development.

3	Economics of Pakistan		
Aim			
The aim of this subject content is to introduce learners to the economic structure of Pakistan, focusing on key sectors such as agriculture, industry, and services. It explores the use of natural resources, population dynamics, trade, and economic policies that influence the country's development.			
Learning Outcomes - The learner will:		Assessment Criteria - The learner can:	
1	Understand the historical events that have shaped Pakistan's economic development	1.1	Identify key historical events that impacted Pakistan's economic development (e.g., partition, wars, political instability).
		1.2	Analyse how these events affected the economy's growth and stability.
2	Analyse the role of agriculture, industry, and trade in Pakistan's economy.	2.1	Explain the role of agriculture in Pakistan's economy and its contribution to GDP.
		2.2	Assess the importance of industry in Pakistan's development, focusing on major industries
		2.3	Discuss the impact of international trade on Pakistan's balance of payments
3	Examine the economic challenges Pakistan faces, including debt, unemployment, and poverty.	3.1	Identify and explain the major economic challenges faced by Pakistan.
		3.2	Analyse the impact of unemployment and poverty on social and economic development.
4	Evaluate the opportunities for sustainable development and economic growth.	4.1	Discuss the importance of sustainable development in the context of Pakistan's resources and economy
		4.2	Evaluate opportunities for improving Pakistan's economic growth, such as investment in renewable energy and infrastructure.

4	Constitution of Pakistan		
Aim			
The aim of this subject content is to explore the evolution of Pakistan’s constitution, focusing on its key features, changes over time, and the role it plays in ensuring governance and protecting citizens' rights. This Unit covers the significance of various constitutional developments.			
Learning Outcomes - The learner will:		Assessment Criteria - The learner can:	
1	Understand the historical evolution of Pakistan’s constitution, from the Objectives Resolution to the 1973 Constitution.	1.1	Explain the Objectives Resolution of 1949 and its significance
		1.2	Describe the constitutional developments from 1956 to 1973, highlighting key features of each constitution.
2	Analyse the key features of the constitutions of 1956, 1962, and 1973.	2.1	Compare and contrast the key features of the constitutions of 1956, 1962, and 1973.
		2.2	Analyse how each constitution impacted governance in Pakistan.
3	Evaluate the role of the constitution in ensuring the protection of citizens' rights.	3.1	Explain the provisions of the 1973 Constitution regarding the protection of fundamental rights.
		3.2	Assess the effectiveness of constitutional safeguards in protecting citizens’ rights.
4	Discuss the challenges faced in implementing the constitutional framework in Pakistan.	4.1	Identify the challenges faced by Pakistan in implementing its constitutional provisions.
		4.2	Analyse the political instability and military rule's impact on constitutional governance.

5	Foreign Policy of Pakistan		
Aim			
The aim of this subject content is to provide learners with an understanding of Pakistan's foreign policy, its objectives, principles, and relations with key countries. This Unit also covers Pakistan's role in global Organisations and its strategic positioning in the international community.			
Learning Outcomes - The learner will:		Assessment Criteria - The learner can:	
1	Understand the principles and objectives of Pakistan's foreign policy.	1.1	Describe the key principles guiding Pakistan's foreign policy.
		1.2	Analyse Pakistan's strategic objectives in international relations.
2	Analyse Pakistan's relations with key countries such as India, Afghanistan, China, and the USA.	2.1	Explain Pakistan's historical relationship with India and its impact on foreign policy.
		2.2	Discuss Pakistan's relationship with Afghanistan and its regional implications.
		2.3	Analyse the importance of China and the USA in Pakistan's foreign relations.
3	Assess Pakistan's role in global Organisations like the United Nations.	3.1	Identify Pakistan's role in international Organisations such as the United Nations.
		3.2	Assess Pakistan's contributions to global peace and security efforts.
4	Examine the strategic importance of Pakistan's nuclear program in its foreign relations.	4.1	Explain the development of Pakistan's nuclear program.
		4.2	Assess the implications of Pakistan's nuclear status for its foreign relations and security.

6	Current Perspectives and the Future of Pakistan		
Aim			
The aim of this subject content is to enables learners to critically assess the current social, economic, and political challenges of Pakistan. This Unit emphasises the role of youth in shaping the future of Pakistan and the opportunities for development in the 21st century.			
Learning Outcomes - The learner will:		Assessment Criteria - The learner can:	
1	Analyse contemporary social, economic, and political issues in Pakistan.	1.1	Identify and explain the current social, economic, and political issues facing Pakistan.
		1.2	Analyse the effects of these issues on Pakistan’s development.
2	Understand the challenges related to poverty, unemployment, and governance in Pakistan.	2.1	Discuss the impact of poverty and unemployment on Pakistan’s economy and society.
		2.2	Examine the challenges related to governance and political stability in Pakistan.
3	Explore the potential opportunities for Pakistan’s development in the 21st century.	3.1	Identify potential areas of growth and development for Pakistan in the 21st century.
		3.2	Discuss how technological advancements and education can drive Pakistan’s development.
4	Evaluate the role of youth in influencing the future direction of the country.	4.1	Analyse the role of youth in Pakistan’s social and political development.
		4.2	Assess the potential of youth-led initiatives in shaping Pakistan’s future.