

**AISB**AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL OF BUDAPEST

Syllabus for IB Environmental Systems and Societies

Teacher: Mr. B. MacRury

Welcome back for your second year of IB ESS. This year will be filled with challenges as we complete the remaining units of our ESS course, finalize our IA submissions and prepare for the final IB exams in May. While we have a lot of work ahead of us it's important that we remain confident and keep focused to ensure that we all make it through the year successfully. I hope everyone has a fantastic year and please remember that I am ready to do whatever it takes to help you along the way.

Mr. Mac

Course Description:

The intent of this course is to provide you with a coherent perspective of the interrelationships between environmental systems and societies; one that enables you to adopt an informed personal response to the wide range of environmental issues that you will inevitably face. You will consider your own relationship with the environment and how the choices and decisions you make impact our world.

Contact Information:

You will usually find me in room B312. If not, have a look in one of the other science labs or with Ms. Emese Antal (our lab technician). Otherwise, email me at bmacrury@aisb.hu with any issues. Be mindful that I rarely check email between 8:00 pm and 7:30 am, so don't expect a response.

★ Please, never hesitate to check in with me; **I am here to help YOU achieve YOUR goals.**

Course Textbooks:

Rutherford, J. and Williams, G. (2015). *Environmental Systems and Societies: Course Companion*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Botkin, D. and Keller, E. (2010). *Environmental Science: Earth as a Living Planet*. USA: John Wiley & Sons.

Topics to be Covered:

| Unit | Duration | |
|---|-----------------|-------|
| Topic 2: Ecosystems and Ecology | ~ 10 weeks | S1_Y1 |
| Topic 1: Foundations | ~ 6 weeks | S1_Y1 |
| Topic 8: Humans and Resource Use | ~ 6 weeks | S2_Y1 |
| Topic 7: Climate Change and Energy Production | ~ 6 weeks | S2_Y1 |
| Topic 6: Atmospheric Systems | ~ 5 weeks | S2_Y1 |
| Topic 4: Water and Aquatic Food Production | ~ 5 weeks | S1_Y2 |
| Topic 5: Soil and Terrestrial Food Production | ~ 4 weeks | S1_Y2 |
| Topic 3: Biodiversity and Conservation | ~ 4 weeks | S1_Y2 |
| Individual Investigation | ~ 4 weeks | S2_Y2 |
| IB Exam Preparation | ~ 7 weeks | S2_Y2 |

AISB Assessment Model:

| Component | Manner of Assessment |
|-------------------|--|
| Academic Practice | <i>Complete or Incomplete and Good, Partial or Limited Understanding</i> |
| Formative | 1 - 7 Scale |
| Summative | 1 - 7 Scale |
| Semester Exam | 1 - 7 Scale |
| Overall | 1 - 7 Scale |

*Further detail related to AISB's assessment policies can be reviewed in the student handbook.

IB Evaluation Breakdown:

| Component | Percentage of Grade |
|--|----------------------------|
| Internal Assessment (Individual Investigation) | 25% of IB score |
| External Assessment (2 written tests) | 75% of IB score |
| Total (Internal + External) | 100% of IB score |

Late Work and Academic Honesty:

Please review AISB's policies found within the student handbook.