

## Environmental Systems and Societies (ESS) Syllabus/2014-2015/Mrs. Ahmed

**Website:** <https://cynthiaahmed.wikispaces.com/> (contains daily plan page and book website)

**Course Goal:** To further enhance your understanding of our environment and its complexity. We will work to fulfill the internal assessment portion of the IB requirement and also toward preparation for the IB end of course assessment.

### Supplies:

- Text: Environmental Systems and Societies (Cambridge—need every day)
- Text: Environment: The Science Behind the Stories (Pearson—mostly keep at home)
- Pocket Folder (returned assignments/tests)
- Something to take notes in (spiral or binder)
- Pencils (all quizzes and tests), Pens (optional for class notes)
- Computer access from home
- Calculator with scientific notation capability (will be allowed on some parts of exam)

### Class Content:

Topic	Description		Topic	Description
1	<u>Systems and Models</u>		4	<u>Conservation and Biodiversity</u> 4.1 Biodiversity in ecosystems 4.2 Evaluating biodiversity and vulnerability 4.3 Conservation of biodiversity
2	<u>The Ecosystem</u> 2.1 Structure 2.2 Measuring abiotic components of the system 2.3 Measuring biotic components of the system 2.4 Biomes 2.5 Function 2.6 Changes 2.7 Measuring changes in the system		5	<u>Pollution Management</u> 5.1 Nature of pollution 5.2 Detection and monitoring of pollution 5.3 Approaches to pollution management 5.4 Eutrophication 5.5 Solid domestic waste 5.6 Depletion of stratospheric ozone 5.7 Urban air pollution 5.8 Acid deposition
3	<u>Human Populations, Carrying Capacity, and Resource Use</u> 3.1 Population dynamics 3.2 Resources—natural capital 3.3 Energy resources 3.4 The soil system 3.5 Food resources 3.6 Water resources 3.7 Limits to growth 3.8 Environmental demands of human populations		6	<u>The Issue of Global Warming</u>
			7	<u>Environmental Value Systems</u>
			8	<u>Theory of Knowledge</u>

**Grade Breakdown:** Quarterly

Semester

Total Points

40% First Quarter/40% Second Quarter/20% (Final Exam)

**General Policies:**

Drinks are allowed in the classroom, but not in lab. All containers should be reusable or recyclable.

Please sign up for lunch at home or before school.

**Late Policy:**

Late assignments are not expected in this class.

**In Case of Absence:**

Check “plan page” to see what assignment is due the next class. If a test or quiz is scheduled, be prepared for it.

If a lab is missed, be sure to schedule a make-up time as soon as possible.

Labs and or tests will most likely need to be made up outside of the school day.

***Helpful Hint:*** The most important thing one may do to be successful in the class is to ATTEND class EVERY day!

**Extra Help/Tutoring/Parent Conferences:**

Extra help is often available after school or during lunch. Please send me an e-mail or stop by and ask for an available time slot if you are interested. I would much rather help you SOONER rather than later! Parents can e-mail with any concerns or call the school (421-1820) to set up a conference.