Buckswood School

IB Diploma Programme

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| Subject | Environmental Systems and Societies |
| HL / SL | SL |
| Text book | Environmental Systems and Societies (OUP) |
| Lesson per week | 3 hours |
| Teacher | Mr Lawless |
| Students |  |

**Christmas term (U6th)**

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| **Week** | **Topics covered** | **TOK Question** | **Connections** | **Recommended Extra Reading** |
| 1  (11 Sept) | 5.3 Soil degradation and conservation |  |  |  |
| 2  (18 Sep) | 6.1 Introduction to the atmosphere |  |  |  |
| 3  (25 Sep) | *6.2 Stratospheric ozone* |  |  |  |
| 4  (02 Oct) | *6.3 Photochemical smog*  *6.4 Acid deposition* | Environmental problems are often emotive—under what circumstances should we  maintain a detached relationship with the subject matter under investigation?  To what extent does the recognition of the ethical responsibility of knowledge influence the further production or acquisition of knowledge? | 6.3  Chemistry  (topic 5)  Geography  (option G),  6.4  Chemistry  (topic 8); |  |
| 5  (09 Oct) | *7.1 Energy choices and security* | To what extent does the recognition of the ethical responsibility of knowledge influence the further production or acquisition of knowledge? | Chemistry  (topic 8); |  |
| 6  (16 Oct) | **Assessment week** | | | |
| 7  (23 Oct) | **Half term** | | | |
| 8  (30 Oct) | **Internal Assessment** |  |  |  |
| 9  (06 Nov) | **Internal Assessment** |  |  |  |
| 10  (20 Nov) | **Internal Assessment** |  |  |  |
| 11  (20 Nov) | **Internal Assessment** |  |  |  |
| 12  (27 Nov) | **Internal Assessment** |  |  |  |
| 13  (04 Dec) | Revision |  |  |  |
| 14  (11 Dec) | **Assessment Week** | | | |

**Easter term (U6th)**

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| **Week** | **Topics covered** | **TOK Question** | **Connections** | **Recommended Extra Reading** |
| 1  (08 Jan) | *7.2 Climate change—causes and impacts*  *7.3 Climate change—mitigation and adaptation* | There has been considerable debate about the causes of climate change does our interpretation of knowledge from the past allow us to reliably predict the future? | Chemistry  (option C)  Physics (topic 8)  Geography  (topics 3 and 4); |  |
| 2  (15 Jan) | *8.1 Human population dynamics*  *8.2 Resource use in society* | A variety of models and indicators are employed to quantify human population dynamics—to what extent are the methods of the human sciences “scientific”?  As resources become scarce, we have to make decisions about how to use them—to what extent should potential damage to the environment limit our pursuit of knowledge? | 8.1  Biology  (option C);  Geography (topic 1);  8.2  Physics (topic 8)  Geography (topic 4) |  |
| 3  (22 Jan) | *8.3 Solid domestic waste*  *8.3 Solid domestic waste* | The circular economy can be seen as a paradigm shift—does knowledge develop through paradigm shifts in all areas of knowledge? | Chemistry  (option A);  Geography  (topic 4 and option B) |  |
| 4  (29 Jan) | Revision |  |  |  |
| 5  (05 Feb) | Assessment Week |  |  |  |
| 6  (12 Feb) | **Half Term** |  |  |  |
| 7  (19 Feb) | Revision |  |  |  |
| 8  (26 Feb) | Revision |  |  |  |
| 9  (05 Mar) | Exam practise |  |  |  |
| 10  (12 Mar) | Exam practise |  |  |  |
| 11  (19 Mar) | Assessment Week |  |  |  |

**Summer Term**

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| **Week** | **Topics covered** | **TOK Question** | **Connections** | **Recommended Extra Reading** |
| 1  (16 April) | Revision |  |  |  |
| 2  (23 Apr) | Revision |  |  |  |
| 3  (30 Apr) | Revision |  |  |  |
| 4  (07 May) | Exams |  |  |  |
| 5  (14 May) | Exams |  |  |  |
| 6  (21 May) | Exams |  |  |  |
| 7  (28 May) | **Half term** |  |  |  |
| 8  (04 Jun) |  |  |  |  |
| 9  (11 Jun) |  |  |  |  |
| 10  (18 Jun) |  |  |  |  |
| 11  (25 Jun) |  |  |  |  |