

# Introduction to Environmental Science

Week 1: Definitions and Terms Video  
Handout

## **Environmental Science:**

examines interactions  
among natural systems  
and human systems

## **System:**

any set of interacting components  
that influence one another  
by exchanging energy or materials

## **Environmental Studies:**

a broader field that includes  
environmental science as well as  
policy, economics, literature, and ethics

## **Environmentalism**

a social movement that seeks to protect the environment through lobbying, activism, and education

## **Sustainability:**

living on Earth and using resources in a way that will allow future generations to do so with roughly the same standard of living

## Ecosystem services:

functions provided by  
the natural environment  
that benefit humans

