

# Principles of Environmental Science

ENVS 101

Course Instructor: Jessica Applin, Adjunct Professor, Environmental Science Department  
Contact: [japplin.westfield.ma.edu](mailto:japplin.westfield.ma.edu)

The Principles of Environmental Science is intended to provide you with a broad general background on environmental issues that affect our society, and the skills to critically understand them. You'll have a chance to learn about people and our interactions with our surroundings (environment). Of primary concern is whether or not our actions are sustainable. We'll use science and ecosystem approaches to try to make sense of human behavior and policy as they affect and are affected by our world. This course will require a great deal of discussion, reading, writing, research, speaking, and critical thinking.



## Objectives

Understand the interrelationship between people and the environment, and between different components of ecosystems

Understand and use science as a tool to explain and understand the world

Understand your place in the world, how your actions impact the environment, and how to minimize your impact

