

Navigating A Changing World

Humans, Environment, and Ethics in the Anthropocene



Vocabulary for Students

- **Environmental ethics:** what one believes about what is right and wrong behavior towards the environment.
- **Ethics:** what you value and what shapes your actions and character. Thinking about who you are and how you act in light of who you think you should be and how you think you should act.
- **Values:** help guide humans when making decisions; rules which guide decisions about what is good, bad, right, and wrong.
- **Worldview:** how people think the world works and what they believe their role in the world should be.
 - **Anthropocentrism:** a human-centered worldview focusing on the needs and wants of humans.
 - **Biocentrism:** a life or earth worldview focusing on the living things around humans within the entire biosphere.
 - **Ecocentrism:** a worldview which sees intrinsic value of all lifeforms, including abiotic (non-living) components.
- **Ecosystem Services:** the benefits people obtain from ecosystems including: provisional services (fiber, food, water, etc.), regulatory services (climate, water purification, pollination, etc.), supporting services (ecosystem functions, nutrient cycle, etc.), and cultural services (aesthetic, recreational, cultural, etc.)