

Kristin Jensen Sullivan

Kristin Jensen Sullivan has been teaching for 25 years (15 years at De Anza College) and is honored to be a full-time faculty member in the Environmental Studies (ES) Department. Kristin received her Master of Science degree at San Jose State University in Environmental Studies with an emphasis on ecology relating to watersheds, the protection of our creeks and rivers. The environmental studies/sciences curricula is diverse and Kristin teaches a variety of classes that include active student learning through rich content on natural, socio-economic, ethnic, cultural, equity, and environmental justice issues.

In her classes, Kristin combines her life long love for the outdoors with the importance of a living democracy. She stresses the need for our own physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health in protecting the environment; our health and the health of the planet are inextricably linked. By learning in natural spaces and about crucial environmental issues around air, water, food, environmental justice, and sustainable cities, students understand this very critical link and have the desire to make a better world socially and environmentally. Kristin is an avid hiker, backpacker, rock climber, and kayaker and she has been actively engaged in exploring and protecting natural spaces and cultures in California, the U.S., Central America, and Africa.

She also expresses the importance of being civically engaged in our schools, communities, homes, and workplaces. Kristin is involved in the curriculum process for the Environmental Studies Department and she has served on many campus committees including Academic Senate and the College Environmental Advisory Group (and its work with the Sustainability Management Plan). Ms. Sullivan is involved with other campus departments and with the broader community by attending and speaking at conferences/workshops and initiating and executing De Anza College events. She is also involved in implementing sustainability into Capitola's General Plan and is the Chair of Capitola's Commission on the Environment. Examples of community partners include her work with governments and non-profit groups, from local to international.

Ms. Sullivan is excited and hopeful that this generation and future generations of students will help make this world a better place through their problem-solving education, awareness, and social and environmental action!