

Leslyn McCallum

Professor, Communication Studies

Pedagogy Philosophy:

I believe college education should be fun, thoughtful, inspiring, and applicable to students' lives. All of my classes are a combination of activities, life skills, discussion, short lectures, and the study and application of communication theory. I love to create new activities for my classes and design new lectures on current human communication research. My goal is to have my students apply communication theory and skills to their personal, professional, academic, social, family and civic lives and improve their relationships.

Learning and improving communication skills is a lifelong journey. We are all "works in progress" and should continue to strive to be better communicators and global citizens. I also learn to be a better communicator from each and every student and class I teach.

Education and Professional Background

M.A. Communication Studies –Intercultural Communication emphasis, University of Nevada, Reno

B.A. Speech Communication – Humboldt State University

B.A. Journalism – Public Relations emphasis – Humboldt State University

Semester at Sea, University of Pittsburgh –student participant

Director, Train of Consciousness, College diversity training and travel program

Diversity Trainer – Lee Mun Wah- trained diversity facilitator

Riding Instructor- English Equitation, beginning Hunter/Jumpers – retired

Corporate Trainer – US Peace Corps, Pebble Beach Golf Association, County of Santa Cruz.

Semester At Sea – volunteer recruiter

Red Cross Community Hero – Award for Train of Consciousness

Biography

Leslyn was born in Sacramento, California where her father was a community college professor in Psychology and her mother was an elementary school teacher. (Leslyn has a sister who is one year older and still one of her dearest friends.) Her family moved around California as her parents pursued their academic careers and advanced degrees. When Leslyn was 4 years old, her family moved to Caracas, Venezuela for a few years as her father set up technical colleges in Caracas as an educational administrator with the Ford Foundation. In third grade, Leslyn moved back to California and went to elementary school in Palo Alto and Fremont, and graduated from Mission San Jose High School in Fremont. Leslyn attended Ohlone College for one year as she saved money for Semester at Sea (an around-the-world university program). After returning from her world travels, Leslyn finished her B.A. degree at Humboldt State University and then moved to Lake Tahoe where she commuted to University of Nevada, Reno and acquired her Masters degree in Communication Studies. Leslyn taught college part time at University of Nevada, Reno, Lake Tahoe Community College, and then moved to Santa Cruz and taught part time at Cabrillo College, Monterey Peninsula College, Hartnell

College, and CSU Monterey Bay. In 2005, Leslyn accepted a full-time, tenure track job at San Jose City College, which she says was the best decision of her life. “More than any college or university, San Jose City College has the most inspiring, diverse, and enthusiastic students of any college where I have taught!” Leslyn’s extended family all live in Santa Cruz and the Bay Area and she has two nieces whom she adores.

Personal Interests

I have two rescued dogs; a wolf dog named Aikido and a husky mix named Kuma.



I have been “horse crazy” my whole life and owned many horses and ridden all over the world.

