

Professor Sally Keely's Biography

skeely@clark.edu | contact.sallykeely.com | BHL-138 | 360.992.2509

Here are some quick facts about my professional and personal background:

- Moved around a lot as a child. I changed schools often and much of my learning was done independently (in a VW bus crisscrossing N. America, living on a sailboat for a couple of years, even traveling by transcontinental train for months). I tell you this so you know that I do understand the self-motivation that is necessary to learn in a non-traditional environment such as the one in which you are about to embark.
- Left High School early to attend UC Santa Barbara. Majored in mechanical engineering, computer programming, and developmental psychology before earning B.S. and M.S. degrees in mathematics from Portland State University.
- Started teaching at Mt Hood CC just before my 20th birthday. First tenured position was at Pierce College in Puyallup WA. Came to Clark College in 1996, tenured in 1999. Taught part-time at the Univ. of Phoenix Online since 2002. Have taught college mathematics for over 30 years.
- Created the Clark College online mathematics program in 1999. Within a decade it had grown to about 20 different math courses available online and 15 dedicated online math faculty.
- Earned a C.O.I. (Certified Online Instructor) in 2005. Authored a series of algebra ebooks called [GOLDen Mathematics](#) in 2006. Became a [Quality Matters](#) certified Online Course Peer Reviewer in 2012.
- Developed the first-ever-in-the-northwest full-online Calculus I-II-III for STEM courses in 2009. Have now taught around 300 online math classes!

I serve on the executive boards (as webmaster) of two non-profit organizations: [Green Party of Southwest Washington](#) and [Washington Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges \(WAMATYC\)](#). I am active in [NoMethanol360.com](#), citizens fighting the world's largest methanol refinery from coming to SW WA. I also advocate for persons exposed to [diethylstilbestrol \(DES\)](#) and volunteered with [DES Action](#) for many years.

On a more personal note, I was born in NY City, the first American in my family, and hold dual citizenship with Canada. My parents emigrated from England. My father was a theatrical actor and artistic director (plus you may have seen him on TV in some old sitcoms or movies).

I live in Kalama, a small town in southwest Washington state, on five acres at 2200 feet with my husband, teen daughter (whom we home-educate), and our border collie/golden retriever. I am an avid walker (often on the treadmill while teaching my online classes), active in ecological protection and progressive political issues, enjoy web design, coding, reading, hiking, caving, camping, and travel.

I love math! It is fun, exciting, aesthetically beautiful, and intriguingly vital. Thinking mathematically helps you to analyze and solve problems in an organized logical manner. I hope through this course you will improve your critical thinking skills and appreciate the usefulness of mathematics in your own life and career. My role is to facilitate your learning through guided discovery activities in a challenging meaningful supportive atmosphere. This is in line with my teaching motto, *"I am not here to teach at you, I am here to help you learn."* (Full [educational philosophy](#).)

