

## About me ...

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I was born and raised in Austin, Texas. Growing up I played several sports and was an active Girl Scout. I completed my undergraduate studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where I majored in aquatic biology and Spanish. I also became a leader in the Outdoor Adventure Program where I helped lead sea kayaking lessons for 4 years, as well as overnight camping trips. I have also participated in kayaking trips down rivers in California and Oregon. Through the Outdoor Adventure Program I learned safety skills as well as kayaking skills. I also learned how to teach kayaking effectively. After finishing my bachelors, I spent 3 months in Chile assisting a post-doctorate with her research on intertidal crabs. I then participated in reef conservation efforts in Mozambique for 4 weeks. Next, I worked for the Natural Resource Department of the National Park Service in northern California, where I identified and removed invasive plant species. In September 2009, I climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro, the highest peak in Africa, with my mom and grandma. I moved to Puerto Rico in January 2010 and I am currently completing my master's in the Crops and Agroenvironmental Sciences Department. I plan on finishing in May 2012. I have loved my time in Puerto Rico. The food is amazing, the people are super friendly, and there is so much to see and explore. I have been on several kayaking trips with Dallas and since last semester I have begun to lead them as well. It is one of my favorite things to do on the island. I hope you love it as much as I do!



# ...JESSICA CHAPPELL