



SRSU Office of Academic Affairs
Spring 2026
Eagle Pass Campus Brown Bag Event

WHAT: Spring 2026 Instructional Services at SRSU Update

WHEN: Friday, February 13th, 2026, from 11:40am to 1:15pm





Welcome & Opening

Vice President and Chief Operating Officer SRSU INTL

Dr. Jorge Garza

(...and some general housekeeping with Tim before
we get started...)



TSUS Shared Services Partnership

Sul Ross State University and Sam Houston State University

SHSU Online Team



Dr. Ruth Chisum – Assistant Vice President for Online Operations

Jacob Spradlin – Executive Director of Online Instructional Development and Support

Ricki Lee Hodges Neri – TSUS Blackboard Master Administrator

Daniel Walker – Executive Director for Online Learning Technologies Support

Ray Scheel - Associate Director for Course Development

Jason Woodall - Associate Director of Online Instructional Development and Support

Rachel Scherer - Senior Instructional Designer

SRSU Blackboard Support Team



Tim Parsons & Rachel Carvajal – SRSU Blackboard Admins & Instructional Design Support



SRSU Office of Information Technology Team



Patrick Stewart – Chief information Officer (both **SRSU & Lamar**)

Paula Arredondo – Executive Director of Information Technology Operations

Paedric Rayburn – Senior Network System Admin

George Hernandez - Director OIT Operations MRGC

Carlos Guzman – Network System Admin

Sarah Sheffield – Information Security Specialist

Dominick Percoco – Manager OIT Client Services

Scott Polk – LTAC Helpdesk Coordinator

Santana Taranga – Control Systems Technician

Juan Garza - Technical Support Specialist II RGC

Pedro-Alcario Garcia – Technical Support Specialist II ALP

Andrey Dubovik – Technical Support Specialist II ALP





SRSU Academic Deans Update

Dr. Sally Roche

Dean of the College of Humanities & Sciences

Dr. Laura Payne

Dean of Case College (LASS),
Graduate Studies & Online Education



SRSU OIT Update

George Hernandez

Director of OIT Operations DR/EP/UV

Sarah Sheffield

Information Security Specialist



SRSU Advancement & Dual Credit Update

Dr. Jorge Garza

Vice President and Chief Operating Officer SRSU INTL

Dr. John Klingemann

Vice President of Development and Advancement



SRSU Library Resources Update

Mike Fernandez

Head of Library Systems & Access
Eagle Pass Campus



SRSU Current Grants Update

SRSU Executive Grant Director

Kendall Craig

SRSU Title V DHSI Culture of Care

Director of Student Services

Cynthia Sifuentes



SRSU Office of Communications Update

Isis Cardenas

SRSU Publicist / Communications



AI Awareness & Quality Matters Update

Dr. Jennifer Haan

Director of the Online Learning and Distance Education Division



Instructional Services / Blackboard Development & Support
SRSU Blackboard Ultra Faculty Update

Tim Parsons

SRSU Instructional Services & SRSU Team Blackboard

SRSU Ultra Training & Support:

SRSU 24/7 Blackboard Support - email: blackboardsupport@sulross.edu **OR call toll-free - 888.837.6055**

AVAILABLE TO ALL SRSU FACULTY:

SRSU Faculty Support email:

blackboardsupport@sulross.edu

Goes to a pool of TSUS-SRSU/SHSU Support Desk & Instructional Designers!

Digital Teaching Sessions By Appointment:

Schedule sessions with our TSUS Faculty Dev Team for yourself, your program, or even your entire department!

SRSU Campus Faculty Support:

Tim Parsons - tim.parsons@sulross.edu

SRSU Faculty Training Center – Alpine Campus BAB 319:

Rachel Carvajal rachel.carvajal@sulross.edu

The screenshot displays a Blackboard course interface. At the top, navigation tabs include Content, Calendar, Discussions, Gradebook, Messages, and Analytics. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column, titled 'Course Faculty', lists two instructors: Alfonso Almeida and Neda Benitez, each with a profile picture and an email icon. Below this is a 'Show more' link and a 'Details & Actions' section with links for Roster, Course Groups, Progress Tracking, Course Image, Course is open, and Class Collaborate. The right column, titled 'Course Content', shows a 'Course How-Toolkit' module with a visibility dropdown set to 'Visible to students' and a description of the module's content.

LOTS of opportunities to work with an ID on your 2025/2026 Ultra Courses right now!

SRSU Ultra Training & Support:

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AVAILABLE TO ALL SRSU FACULTY:

SHSU Online Digital Teaching Webinars for Oct:

These FREE webinars are about 45 min to an hour in length.

2/17 @ 1pm - AI 101 Session 3: Prompt Power & Academic Research

2/18 @ 1pm - Title II Accessibility in Blackboard

2/19 @ 2pm - Teaching Large Online Classes: Design/Engage/Assess

2/24 @ 2pm - Blackboard AI Tools Overview

2/25 @ 1pm - Teaching Large Online Classes: Design/Engage/Assess

2/26 @ 2pm - AI 201 Session 3: Ethical Use & Critical Thinking NEW

UPCOMING SPOTLIGHT WEBINAR:

Title II Accessibility in Blackboard – 02/18 @ 1pm

Learn how to create more accessible and inclusive courses using Blackboard tools. This session covers Title II accessibility requirements and steps to improve materials for all learners.

The screenshot shows a Blackboard course interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Content (selected), Calendar, Discussions, Gradebook, Messages, and Analytics. Below the tabs, the page is divided into two main sections. The left section is titled 'Course Faculty' and lists two instructors: Alfonso Almeida and Neda Benitez, both with 'INSTRUCTOR' roles and email icons. Below the list is a 'Show more' link. The right section is titled 'Course Content' and contains a 'Course How-Toolkit' module. The toolkit is marked as 'Visible to students' and includes a description: 'This module contains multiple units that will help you build out your materials and activities in Communication tools and grading in the UCV are also covered.' Below the content section, there is a 'Details & Actions' area with several options: Roster (View everyone in your course), Course Groups (View sets & groups), Progress Tracking (Turn on), Course Image (Edit display settings), Course is open (Students can access this course), and Class Collaborate (Join session).

**LOTS of opportunities
for live or recorded
Ultra webinars
available!**

Online Bb Ultra Training & Support:

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AVAILABLE TO ALL SRSU FACULTY:
Ultra Resources Available in the Faculty Central
"Teaching Online with Blackboard" Organization Site

SPOTLIGHT: In the "Ultra Webinar Recordings" folder you'll find the latest recorded SHSU Online Ultra webinars such as:

- **Ultra 5 Pack of digital teaching webinars**
- NEW - Effective Assessment in the Age of AI**
- NEW - Insightful Grading & Feedback**
- NEW - Title II Accessibility in Blackboard**

LOTS of opportunities for live or recorded
Ultra webinars available!

Organization Faculty

- Rachel Carvajal
ORGANIZATION LEADER
- Tim Parsons
ORGANIZATION LEADER

[Show more](#)

Details & Actions

- Roster
[View everyone in your organization](#)
- Progress Tracking
On
- Class Collaborate
[Join session](#)
- Attendance
[View your attendance](#)

Organization Content

- Faculty & Staff Services_
The Faculty/Staff Services folder is where SR Faculty and Staff can access LinkedIn Learning i areas, while SR instructors can also connect with Instructional Designers, enroll in a Digital T SRSU Quality Matters initiative.
- Ultra Webinar Recordings
This content area contains the recordings and resources for the Digital Teaching Webinars o

Blackboard Ultra Quick Start Resources
This Module contains Quick Start Guides, Videos, and Walkthroughs for Blac

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AVAILABLE TO ALL SRSU FACULTY:

SHSU-SRSU Digital Educator Certification Cohort

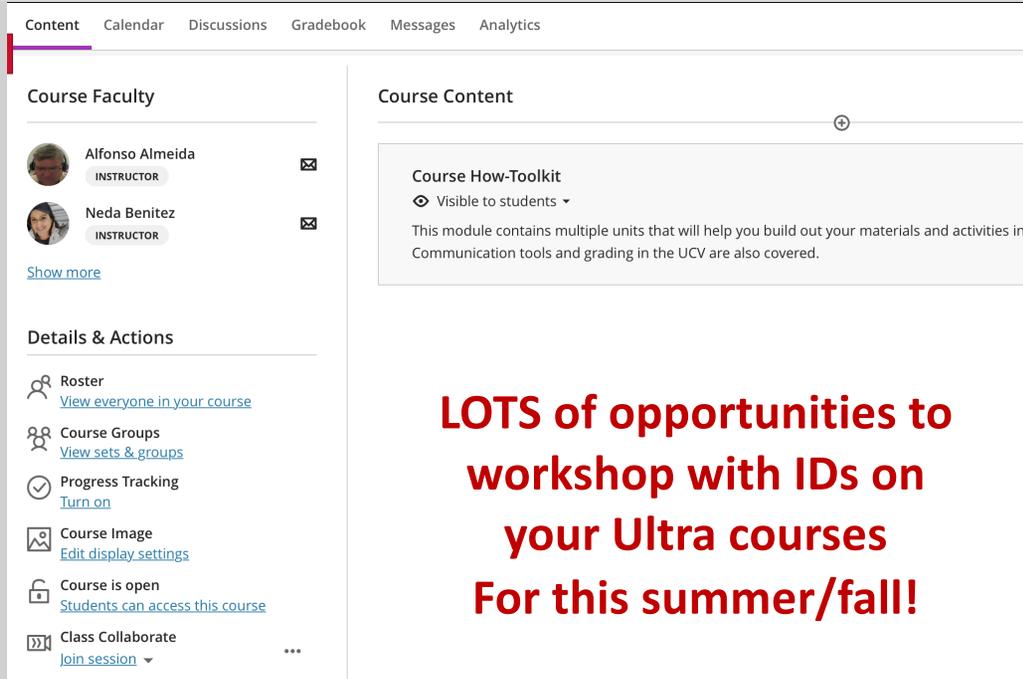
PERFECT for designing a 2026 summer or Fall course in Ultra!

Participants will engage in professional development focused on effective instructional technology, innovative course design, and practical strategies you can immediately apply in your classroom.

The Spring 2026 Cohort begins Monday, February 16th!

We are no longer able to offer a stipend for this training, but the DEC cohort provides high-quality learning experiences that will contribute to your ongoing growth as an educator.

If you are interested in joining the Spring 26 DEC cohort, please sign up using the link on the Brown Bag handout or on the Faculty Resource webpage.



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LOTS of opportunities to workshop with IDs on your Ultra courses For this summer/fall!



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THANK YOU!

