



**SRSU Office of Academic Affairs**  
**Spring 2026**  
**Alpine Campus Brown Bag Event**

**WHAT:** Spring 2026 Instructional Services at SRSU Update

**WHEN:** Friday, February 6th, 2026, from 11:50am to 1:15pm





Welcome & Opening

**Provost Bernie Canteñs**

SRSU Office of Academic Affairs

<sup>d</sup>

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



# TSUS Shared Services Partnership

Sul Ross State University and Sam Houston State University

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## 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** - Director for Online Technology Support Operations

**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** – Director of Academic Technology

**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 OIT Update

**Paula Arredondo**

OIT Executive Director of Information Technology Operations



## SRSU Library Resources Update

**Taylor Moore**

Coordinator of Technical Services & Outreach



## SRSU Academic Deans Update

**Dr. Laura Payne (& friends)**  
Dean of Case College (LASS),  
Graduate Studies & Online Education



SRSU Office of Development and Advancement &  
Dual Credit Update

**Dr. John Klingemann**  
VP of Development & Advancement



# SRSU Student Life / Career Services / Testing Center Update

**Brooke Guffin**

Director of Career Services & Testing



## SRSU Current Grants Update

**Kendall Craig**

Executive Director of Sponsored Programs



SRSU Division of Online Learning & Distance Education  
AI Academic Awareness & Quality Matters Update

**Dr. Jennifer Haan**

Director of the Online Learning and Distance Education Division



Instructional Services / Blackboard Instructional Designer  
**SRSU Technology Training Update**

**Rachel Carvajal**  
SRSU Instructional Technology Specialist

# AREA 319

FACULTY TRAINING CENTER

GRAND OPENING



Join us as we celebrate the grand opening of  
the **Area 319 Faculty Training Center!**

**SRSU Spring 2026 Brown Bag Event**

## Blackboard Under-Used Feature Spotlight: Ally Tool

Monitor and improve course accessibility at your institution with Blackboard Ally!



**For more information on using the Batch Edit feature see your Brown Bag Handout  
or Contact a TSUS-SRSU Instructional Designer!**



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](mailto:blackboardsupport@sulross.edu) **OR call toll-free - 888.837.6055**

### AVAILABLE TO ALL SRSU FACULTY:

**SRSU Faculty Support email:**

**[blackboardsupport@sulross.edu](mailto:blackboardsupport@sulross.edu)**

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

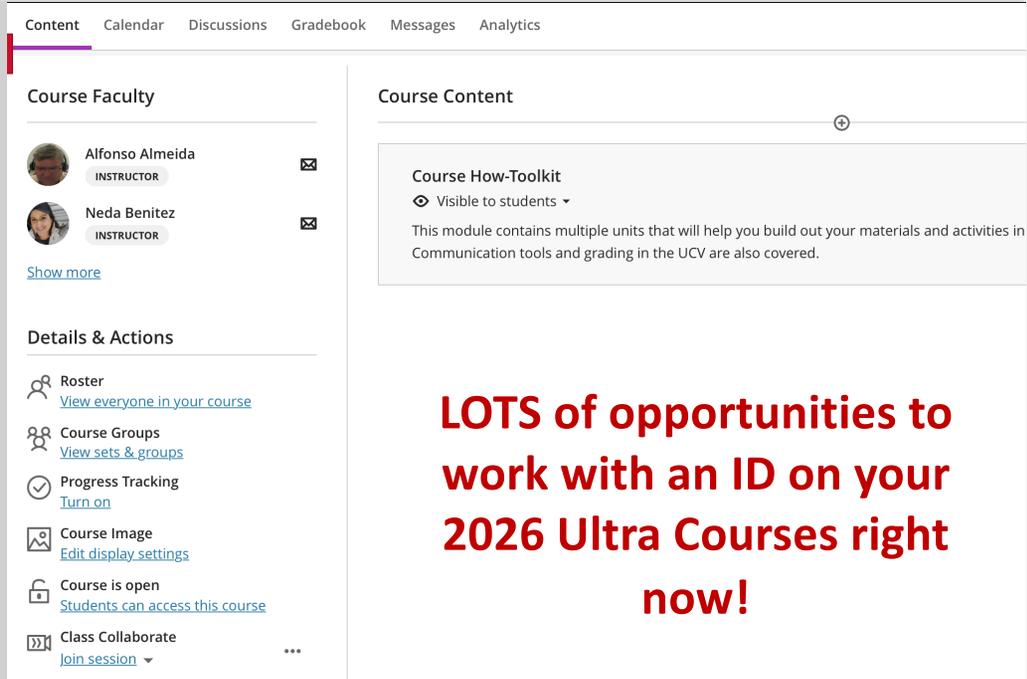
### Digital Teaching How-to By Appointment:

Schedule By Appointment Ultra sessions for yourself, your program, or even your entire department!

### SRSU Campus Faculty Support:

Tim Parsons - [tim.parsons@sulross.edu](mailto:tim.parsons@sulross.edu)

Rachel Carvajal [rachel.carvajal@sulross.edu](mailto:rachel.carvajal@sulross.edu)



The screenshot shows a Blackboard course interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Content, Calendar, Discussions, Gradebook, Messages, and Analytics. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column is titled 'Course Faculty' and lists two instructors: Alfonso Almeida and Neda Benitez, both with 'INSTRUCTOR' roles and email icons. Below this is a 'Show more' link. The right column is titled 'Course Content' and shows a 'Course How-Toolkit' module with a visibility icon and the text 'Visible to students'. Below this, a description states: '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 course content, there is a 'Details & Actions' section 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 to work with an ID on your 2026 Ultra Courses right now!**

# SRSU Ultra Training & Support:

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## AVAILABLE TO ALL SRSU FACULTY:

### SHSU Online Digital Teaching Webinars for Feb:

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

**2/9 @ 2 pm - Title II Accessibility in Blackboard**

**2/10 @ 1 pm - AI 201 - Session 2:** Integrating AI: Assessments, Assignments & Student Use NEW

**2/11 @ 2pm - AI 101 Session 2:** Teaching with AI: Blackboard AI Assistant

**2/12 @ 1pm - What's New in Blackboard?** NEW

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

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

**2/19 @ 2pm - Teaching Large(r) Online Classes:** Design, Engage, Assess

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 three sections:

- Course Faculty:** Lists two instructors: Alfonso Almeida and Neda Benitez, each with a profile picture and an email icon. A "Show more" link is present below the list.
- Course Content:** Shows a "Course How-Toolkit" module with a "Visible to students" dropdown menu and 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."
- Details & Actions:** A list of course management options with icons and links:
  - 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](#)
  - Class Collaborate: [Join session](#)

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

# Online Bb Ultra Training & Support:

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

**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 - Bb Ultra AI Tools - 2025 Webinar Recordings folder (all previous AI webinars under one folder)**

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

**Organization Faculty**

- Rachel Carvajal  
ORGANIZATION LEADER
- Tim Parsons  
ORGANIZATION LEADER

[Show more](#)

**Organization Content**

- Faculty & Staff Services\_
- Ultra Webinar Recordings

**Blackboard Ultra Quick Start Resources**



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**THANK YOU!**

