



**SRSU Office of Academic Affairs
Spring 2026**

SRSU-SHSU Virtual Brown Bag / Faculty Forum Event

WHAT: Spring 2026 Instructional Services at SRSU Update

WHEN: Friday, April 17th, 2026, from Noon to 1:30pm





Welcome & Opening

Dean Laura Payne

Dean of the College of Graduate Studies & Online Education
Dean of the Case College of Literature, Arts & Social Sciences (LASS)

(...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

Daniel Walker - Executive Director of Online Student Engagement & Technologies Support

Ricki Lee Hodges Neri – TSUS Blackboard Master Administrator

Ray Scheel - Associate Director for Course Development

Jason Woodall - Associate Director of Online Instructional Development and Support

Patrick Smith – Director for Course Development

Elliot Cochran & Faith Miller - Instructional Designer / Research Associate

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

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 Division of Online Learning & Distance Education 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 & Rachel Carvajal

SRSU Instructional Services & SRSU Team Blackboard

SRSU Blackboard Spotlight: Summer Bb Course Shells

With an upgraded Banner comes a new way to generate our Blackboard Ultra course shells every semester.

Summer Course Shells are NOW Available! THANK YOU for your Patience.

SRSU Summer 2026

SRSU.202630_ENGL_3311_2W1_31051

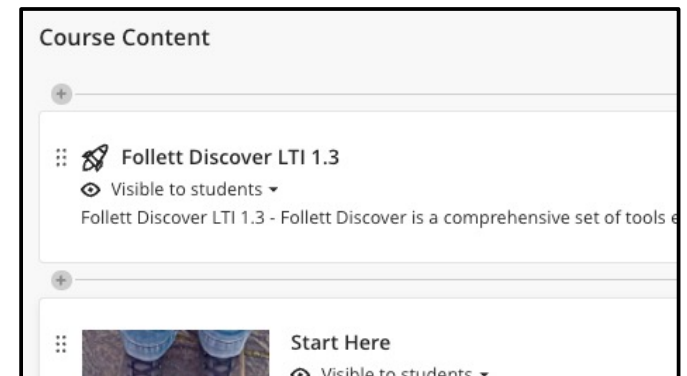
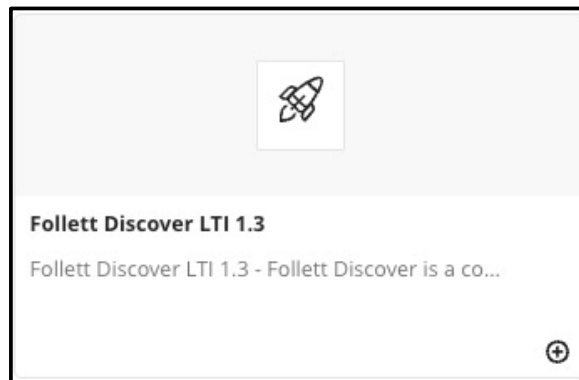
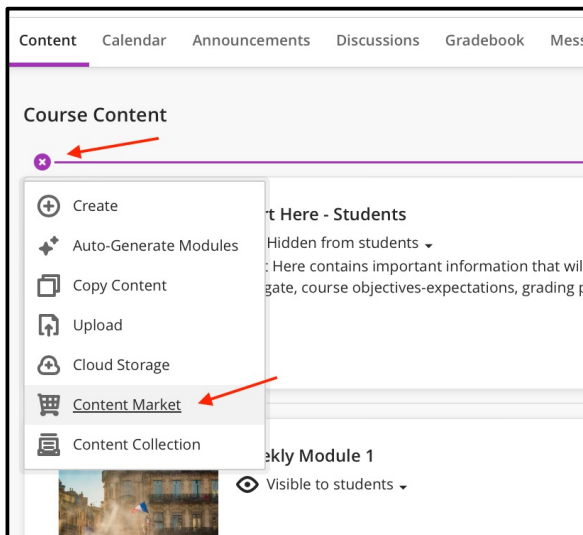
Summer 2026 Children's & Adolescent Lit (ENGL-3311-2W1)

 Closed · Available on Jul 6, 2026 | [Multiple Instructors](#) | More info 

SRSU Fall 2026 Blackboard Course Shells Will Arrive Mid-Late May.

SRSU Blackboard Tool Spotlight: Follet Discovery Tool

The Follet Discovery tool is integrated into our TSUS-SRSU Blackboard and can be found in the “Books & Tools” Content Market area.



For information on adding/using the Follett Discovery tool in your Blackboard course content area Contact a TSUS-SRSU Instructional Designer or email sullyshelf@follett.com!

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:

SHSU Online Digital Teaching Webinars for April:

These FREE webinars are available to all SRSU instructors

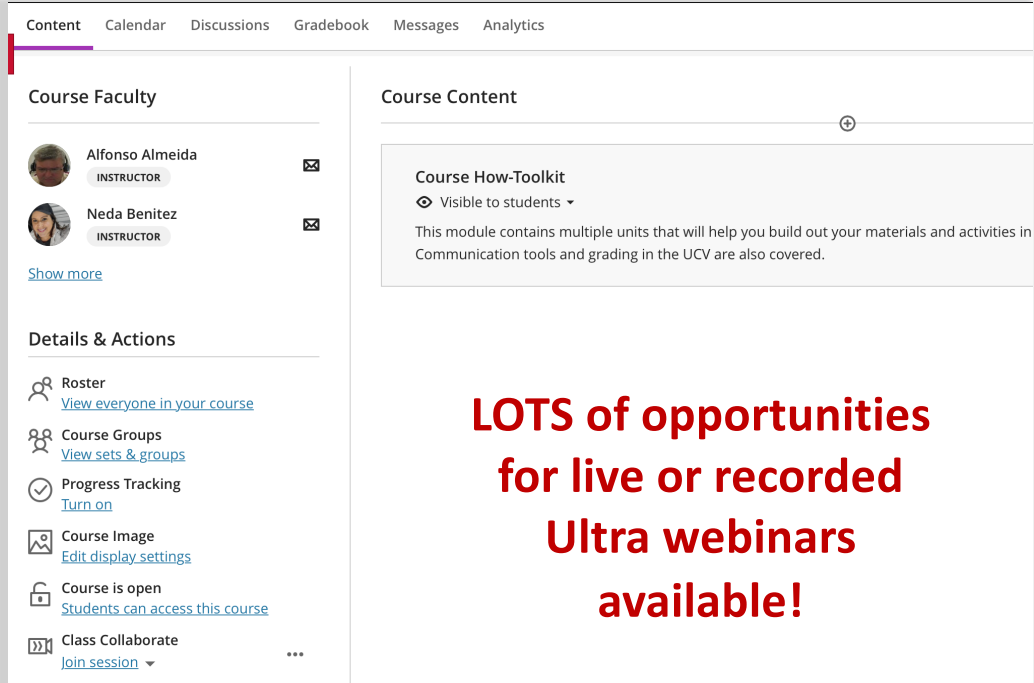
4/21 @ 2PM - AI 201: Session 3: Designing Sustainable & Defensible AI Practices NEW

4/22 @ 1PM - Is your Gradebook Finals Ready? NEW

4/23 @ 1PM - Increasing Your Course Accessibility Score (Title II) NEW

4/28 @ 1PM - Office Hours: Ask FacDev Anything

4/30 @ 2PM - April Faculty Showcase



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 three sections:

- Course Faculty:** Lists two instructors: Alfonso Almeida and Neda Benitez, both with 'INSTRUCTOR' roles and email icons. A 'Show more' link is below.
- Course Content:** Shows a 'Course How-Toolkit' module with a 'Visible to students' toggle 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: 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!**

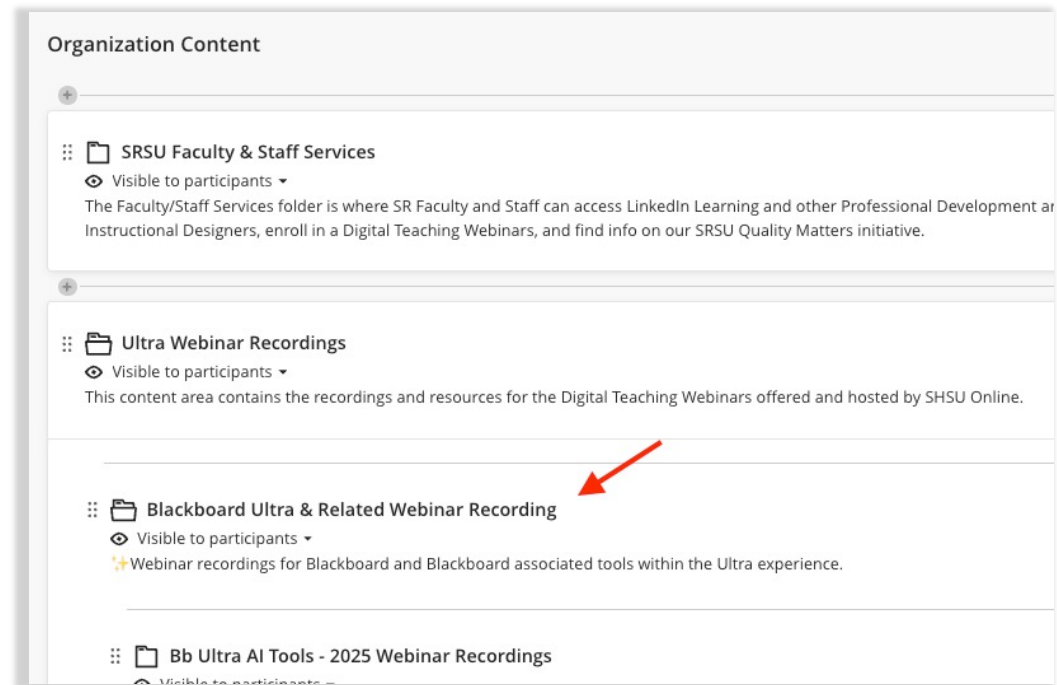
SRSU Ultra Training & Support – Recorded Webinars:

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

AVAILABLE TO ALL SRSU FACULTY:

SRSU Faculty Central "Teaching Online with Blackboard" Organization Site:

In the "Ultra Webinar Recordings" folder you'll find the **latest recorded SHSU Ultra webinars** including some great recent webinar series on utilizing the AI tools we have in Ultra AND webinars on Title II Accessibility!



Ultra Training & Support Coming This Summer:

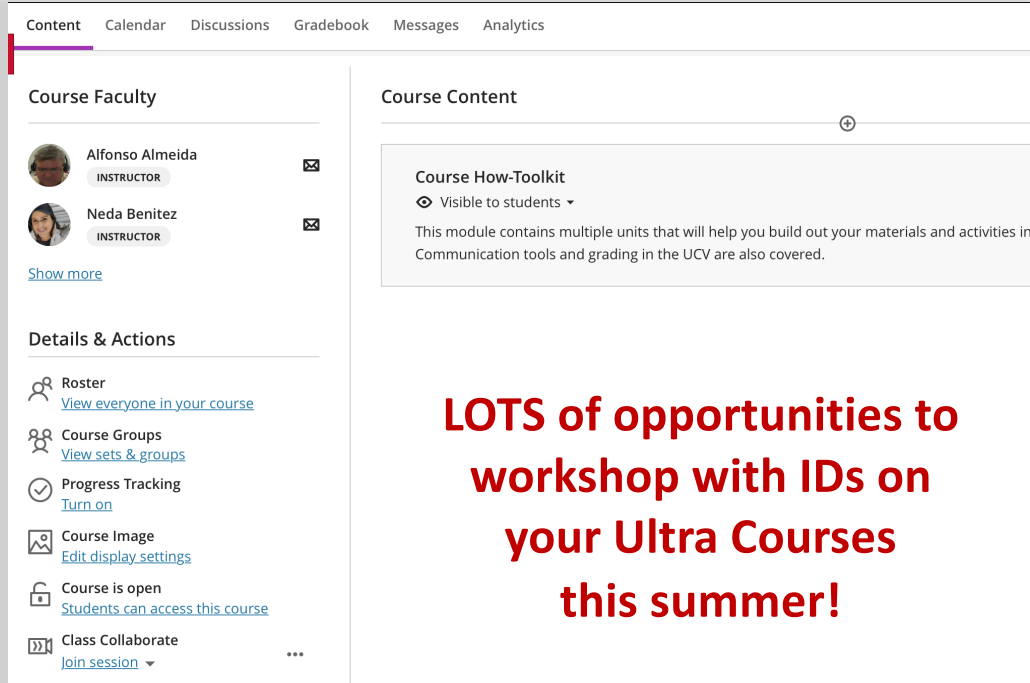
SRSU 24/7 Blackboard Support - email: blackboardsupport@sulross.edu **OR call toll-free - 888.837.6055**

AVAILABLE TO ALL SRSU FACULTY:

COMING JUNE 8th & 9th: Meet In-Person with our **TSUS-SHSU ALL STAR Faculty Development Team**

The SHSU Faculty Development team will be on the **Alpine campus on Monday, June 8th** and **Eagle Pass campus on Tuesday, June 9th!**

Schedule to have one-on-one's with SHSU/SRSU Instructional Designers over any topic OR EVEN request a custom, in-person workshop session for you or your dept/program instructors!



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 workshop with IDs on your Ultra Courses this summer!

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:

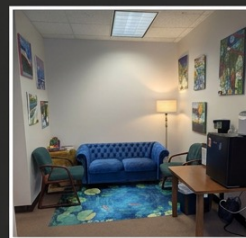
Rachel Carvajal rachel.carvajal@sulross.edu

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 'INSTRUCTOR' label. Below this is 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 icon 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.'

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

Area 319

FACULTY TRAINING CENTER



BAB 319

**By Appointment
Only**

Mon – Fri
9am – 5pm

Rachel Carvajal
rcarvajal@sulross.edu

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY

SRSU Spring 2026 Virtual Brown Bag Event



TSUS-SHSU Partnership
Online Instructional Development & Support
SRSU Faculty Forum Event

SHSU Online Faculty Development All-Star Team



**SRSU Office of Academic Affairs
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Instructional Services at SRSU Update**

THANK YOU!

