WINTER/SPRING 2026

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SOUTHERN STATES UNIVERSITY

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CPT RENEWAL

EMPOWERING GLOBAL MINDS

SOUTHERN STATES UNIVERSITY

# CHANCELLOR'S LIST
# SUMMER 2026

**SSU REGULARLY RECOGNIZES STUDENTS WHO HAVE ACHIEVED A GPA OF 3.8 OR HIGHER DURING THE PREVIOUS QUARTER BY INCLUDING THEIR NAMES ON THE DEAN'S LIST. STUDENTS LISTED HERE ACHIEVED THIS HONOR IN THE SPRING 2026 QUARTER. THE HIGH CALIBER OF SCHOLARSHIP ACHIEVED BY THESE STUDENTS ENHANCES THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION FOR ALL OF OUR STUDENTS AT OUR LEARNING COMMUNITY. I CONGRATULATE THEM FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO SCHOLARLY LIFE AT SOUTHERN STATES UNIVERSITY.**

## SAN DIEGO

### MSIT

Thais Barbosa De Oliveira Lima
Henry Borges Filho
Ana Caroline De Azevedo Barbosa
Asfat Kajuna

### MBA

Surjitsinh Rameshji Chavda
Liliana Cortes
Danielle Evangelista
Mhd Saria Fadloun
Camila Freire
Carolina Gobbetti
Lucas Lopes Mendo
Bruno Montini
Daxkumar Patel
Raikhan Tulegenova
Myrella Lizzet Valdivia Gonzalez

### BBA

Eric Bautista
Jose Ignacio Coronel Arias
Renan Da Silva Santos
Erdal Ergun
Jovidon Ismatzoda
Cristina Paola Manzano Viesca
Anastasiia Olegovna Markelova
Ivan Morato
Kieu Phuong Lan Phan
Thi Minh Thuy Vo

### Graduate Certificate in BA

Mariia Bicherova

### Graduate Certificate in IT

Adnan Saleh Mohammad Alyyan
Helena Gunawan

### Undergraduate Certificate in Marketing

Blanca Elizabeth Arias Moya

# IRVINE

## MSIT

Reema Alkhorayef
Devi Nepal
Minh Chau Ngo
Maribel Roxana Noguerol
Eda Ustun

## MBA

Islam Safwat Ibrahim Ahmed
Selen Aydinoglu
Daniela Becerra Zurita
Regina Belova
Dhia Felhi
Hayder Gaza
Yeena Kim
Hiroki Nomura
Matias Israel Olsen
Waranchit Parapim
Utku Toptas
Tufan Efe Yakici
Soumaya Zaghouani

## BBA

Assel Baibulova
Numan Beyaz
Mohammed Ayub Malik
Suelen Oliva De Campos
Umit Pozan
Assel Zhumadilova

## Graduate Certificate in BA

Ceren Seyma Ekici
Giuliety Farias De Paula
Eliana Bridgeth Martinez Bautista

## Graduate Certificate in IT

DeboraCristina Futigami dosSantos
Vinicius Gonzaga Silva
Paloma Melgareijo Grimaldi
Iris del Cielo Pozo Luna
Khadija Rabeh EP Zouari

## Undergraduate Certificate in Marketing

Fernanda Briseno Velazquez
Karen Eberle Carvalho Schmidt
Yu Tian



# LAS VEGAS

## MBA

Alexcs Zamantha Bautista
Marty Bautista
Jackie Lou Tangi Cabading
Carla Cristina Carvalho Moura
Anastasiia Iakovleva
Soonhee Kim
Supanat Nanglae
Viet Nguyen
Apple Love Padilla
Prince Mark Raquel
Kevin Ross Rint
Yun Xiao

Congratulations



Chancellor's List

# WELCOME TO SSU

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## SSU Welcome - Winter 2026




Thank you to all the new students for joining us in pursuit of an education. We can't wait to see you grow and expand your knowledge.

### Housing Options for International Students

Housing options for college students is an important factor for selecting and thriving in one's school. As prospective students search for a college or university to begin their studies, aside from the quality of a program and a school's student services, housing options should be a main concern as well. Traditionally, colleges and universities offer student housing on their campus, but the number of rooms available is now becoming very limited. Another option is off-campus housing as many schools and universities formally partner with private landlords nearby for offering housing to their students. Large cities with population dense areas provide more options as students can rent a room on a month-to-month basis in private homes and sometimes in hotels that offer long-term rentals. It is also the case that international students planning to study at a U.S. college or university should inquiry with homestay programs that provide an international student not just a place to call home but also a family and group of friends to lean on.

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# MEMORANDUM

**Dear SSU Community,**

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude for your thoughtful and constructive feedback as part of the Chancellor Survey that was conducted this past month. Your voices have reinforced the strength of our shared mission and vision, and your insights guide our continued efforts to build a resilient, innovative, and effective institution.

**Recognizing Our Strengths**

Having successfully navigated one of the most challenging periods in education following the pandemic, our school has achieved significant progress in graduation rates, student retention, and financial stability. I am proud to see that the majority of respondents rated our efforts as exceptional in several key areas, including:

- Leadership & Vision: Being recognized as a "visionary" and "dedicated" leader is a reflection of our shared values.
- Communication: I am committed to maintaining transparency and ensuring timely updates to all stakeholders.
- Governance and Strategic Planning: Collaborating effectively with the Independent Governing Board and overseeing monthly strategic planning meetings has been integral to our goals.
- Financial Oversight and Staff Development: Our collective focus on fiscal responsibility and professional growth remains a cornerstone of our mission.

These accomplishments are not mine alone—they are the product of our collective dedication to SSU's future.

## Join Handshake - The #1 way college students find jobs.

**Dear SSU Students,**

**Have you already joined the #1 student career website?**

**Handshake's network counts with more than 7 million student users, 1100 university/college partners, and 500K employers, including 100% of the Fortune 500. Here are some benefits that this platform can offer:**

**Discover jobs and internships for students and new grads.**
**Receive messages from employers about new jobs and events.**
**Connect with alumni and other employees at organizations that interest you.**
**Get an inside look at employers and jobs with student reviews.**
**Join today to explore career options, find jobs and internships for students, connect with employers, and much more! You only need to access this link: https://joinhandshake.com/students/how-it-works/**

**To sign up for the website, you need a 'ssu.edu' email address to log in. If you do not have one already, please request your "ssu.edu" email address by sending an email to support@ssu.edu with your full name and student ID number.**

**Important: International students should always check with the SSU DSO regarding work authorization.**

**Welcome to Handshake!**

# CONTACT YOUR TEACHING ASSISTANTS

**NOT SURE HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ASSIGNMENTS??**

**NEED HELP WITH MOODLE???**

**FEELING A LITTLE OVERWHELMED??**

**NEED SOME TUTORING??**

**FALLING BEHIND WITH YOUR ASSIGNMENTS??**



## DON'T HESITATE TO ASK FOR HELP!!
## CONTACT YOUR TA:

**MBA/MSIT/GCBA/GCIT**

**GRADUATETA@SSU.EDU**

**BBA/UCM**

**UNDERGRADTA@SSU.EDU**






# LIBRARY NEWS

## NEW SSU Online Librarian Help:

Our team of trained Librarians are there to help students and faculty with their research questions! Please go to the Library Page in Moodle to submit your research inquiry!



# STUDENT SUPPORT

WEBINAR

## LIBRARY WORKSHOPS

## ALWAYS CHECK MOODLE FOR THE MOST CURRENT DATES AND TOPICS

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**Dear Students:**

Your Librarian has prepared these Library Workshops that you can access at any time. As you prepare for your midterm exams or midterm research papers, your instructors highly encourage you to review these workshops.

-Finding Academic Research / Sources
-Making Sure You Don't Lose Points to Plagiarism
-All About APA 7.0
-LIRN Business Focused Searching

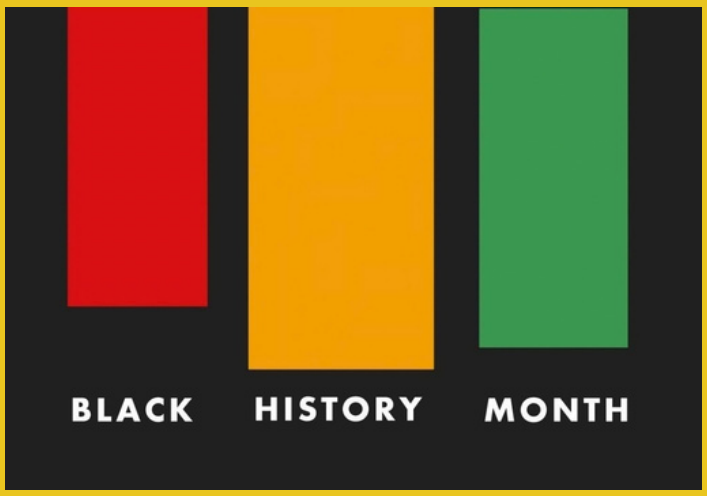
The links to these workshops can be found in the Moodle announcement!

HTTPS://WWW.SSU.EDU/RESOURCES/LIBRARY/

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# SSU Celebrates Black History Month in February: Please join us in celebrating the history and accomplishments of African-Americans.




## Internship: International Business Operations Intern

**Dear SSU Student,**

**San Diego Regional EDC and Foundation offer a competitive internship program that provides students with valuable experience in economic development, marketing and communications, research, and more.**

**Internship: International Business Operations Intern**

**Support World Trade Center San Diego's initiatives focused on enhancing the region's global competitiveness. This internship offers hands-on experience in export promotion, foreign direct investment, and trade mission programming, while providing opportunities to develop key skills in business operations, data analysis, marketing, and communications.**

**Interns will work 15 hours per week beginning in April at the earliest, not to extend past August 30. Interns will work in a hybrid (in-office and virtual) setting, dependent on EDC staff availability and needs. Compensation for this role is $22 per hour.**

**For further information, please check this link: https://www.sandiegobusiness.org/about-edc/team/edc-internship-program/**

**Sincerely,**
**---**
**Southern States University**

# PLEASE BE SURE TO RENEW YOUR WORK AUTHORIZATION BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF EVERY QUARTER!!!
# !!!CONTACT YOUR DSO!!!

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **SAN DIEGO:** | **PAOLA PROCIDA P P R O CIDA@SSU.EDU** | |
| **IRVINE:** | **BEA BERG** | **BBERG@SSU.EDU** |
| **LAS VEGAS:** | **BEA BERG** | **BBERG@SSU.EDU** |

## ????? WORKING ON CPT ?????




IRVINE

LAS VEGAS SAN DIEGO

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## Chancellor's List – Winter 2026

SSU regularly recognizes students who have achieved a GPA of 3.8 or higher during the previous quarter by including their names on the Chancellor's List. Students listed here achieved this honor in the *Fall 2025* term. The high caliber of scholarship achieved by these students enhances the quality of education for all our students in our learning community.

Please see this link for the list: https://ssu.edu/scholastic-honors/

I congratulate them for their contribution to scholarly life at Southern States University.

*~ Dr. Claudia Araiza, SSU Chancellor*

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## WEEK 1 ONLINE ZOOM SESSIONS - SPRING 2026

| Course | Day | Date | Time | Professor Name |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| BU503: Business Fundamentals | Thursday | 4/16 | 5:30 PM | Dr. Peggy Bilbruck |
| BU501: Financial Accounting | Friday | 4/17 | 4:00 PM | Cindy Tran |
| BU506: Managerial Economics | Monday | 4/13 | 3:00 PM | Cindy Goussak |
| BU599: Professional Applied Project | Saturday | 4/18 | 10:00 AM | Chris Young |
| BUS210: Business Law | Monday | 4/13 | 5:00 PM | Steve Ryan |
| PHIL305: Business Ethics | Monday | 4/13 | 5:30 PM | Dr. Katie Males |
| ACC202: Accounting II | Friday | 4/17 | 4:30 PM | Cindy Tran |
| MKT420: E-Marketing | Wednesday | 4/15 | 4:00 PM | Tim Carr |
| MKT305: Marketing Fundamentals | Monday | 4/13 | 4:00 PM | Bradley W-Flores |
| IT500: IT Foundations | Friday | 4/17 | 1:00 PM | Dr. James Rosa |
| IT502: Systems Analysis and Design | Saturday | 4/18 | 11:00 AM | Ahmad Sweed |
| IT516: Web Information Systems | Wednesday | 4/15 | 6:00 PM | Dru Macasieb |
| IT533: Ethical Issues in IT | Friday | 4/17 | 2:00 PM | Dr. James Rosa |

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**SSU 2025 Institutional Data Report**
by SSU-Moodle Administrator - Tuesday, June 9, 2026, 6:26 PM

Dear Students,

I'd like to share the updated **Institutional Research report for 2025**. It is posted on our website but this is our direct link:

https://ssuir2025.netlify.app/

**Key Results:**

- **332 students enrolled** in 2025, which represents a 3% decline compared to 2024..
- **94% student retention rate**, demonstrating strong student persistence.
- Graduate program completion rate of **64.5%** and certificate completion rate of **90.3%**.
- Average student GPA of **3.48** and a **96.4% course completion rate**.
- **90% overall student satisfaction**, with high ratings for teaching, advising, and technology services.
- Extensive library and research resources, including access to **577 databases**.
- Student body represents diverse international backgrounds, with Brazil as the largest country of origin.

Overall, the report demonstrates SSU's commitment to student success, academic excellence, institutional effectiveness, and continuous improvement while benchmarking performance against peer institutions.

Thank you for your support and being part of our SSU community!

Sincerely,

Dr. Claudia Araiza

SSU Chancellor/President

# Southern States University

## SSU Celebrates Pride Month in June

Please join us in celebrating during this worldwide tribute to LGBTQ+. This is a celebration and commemoration of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer pride. SSU is proud to have an inclusive LGBTQ+ community of students, staff, faculty, and alumni.

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# 2026 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

## MBA Class of 2026

Ahmet Eroglu
Alberto Mario Santini
Andrea Daza Isidro
Andressa Domingues Penteado
Anuar Mukushev
Atakan Orhun
Aylin Alagoz
Beatriz Steele
Berfin Ilayda Ozlu
Bo Zheng
Bruna Helmer Coutinho*
Bushra Bilginan
Cansu Pelin Cengiz
Cenk Erdem Ogut
Daniela Becerra Zurita
Diana Coffman
Dianne Dollesin*
Dipsikha Nepal*
Ferman Eraydin
Gabriela Fonseca
Getrude Kokwenda Ndibalema
Hiroki Nomura
Igor Ranielly Ribeiro
Kaue Vieira Nascimento
Larissa da Costa Knupp*
Natalia Gregorio Motta Law
Nidhi Nagah
Sabrina Aluta
Serkan Macit*
Talgat Tokbergen
Tananya Kulalert
Tyler Schindel
Vanessa Zanluchi*

## MSIT Class of 2026

Adriana Estefania Solis Cortes
Ana Elisa Arcoverde Thiele de Mello
Ezer Ayari
Fabiana Saturnino
Luis Fernando Cavalcante Pantolfi
Okan Kemal Yılmaz
Oumar Sekisinde
Sulemana Salifu*

## BBA Class of 2026

Fazil Ali Shaik
Mukul Verma*
Omar Hammami
Sachin Sharma*

*Graduating with honors

Spring 2026 graduates: Honors designations will be applied to all official transcripts upon final degree conferral.

**Get the digital Commencement Program here:**

**The Legacy International Center**
**June 28, 2026 • 4:00 PM**
**San Diego, CA**

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# Congratulations, Class of 2026!




**This past weekend, Southern States University proudly celebrated our amazing graduates. We're so proud of all that you've accomplished and can't wait to see what your future holds. Wishing you all the success ahead!**

# MEET OUR STAFF

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## 20 Years of dedicated service to SSU!

### Wendy Du - SSU Registrar



Congratulations on 20 years of dedicated service to Southern States University! Thank you for your commitment, hard work, and the countless ways you have supported our students and university community over the years. Your dedication and contributions are truly appreciated. We are grateful to have you as part of the SSU family.

With sincere appreciation and congratulations on this remarkable milestone!

# MEET YOUR FACULTY

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## SSU is proud to celebrate the 1st Year Anniversary of our newest faculty member:

## Robert Pacheco, MS in Cybersecurity



## Thank you for your teaching commitment and we look forward to the coming year with you!

# ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT

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## Alumni Highlight: Thianthip Chueapetra



Join us in celebrating the accomplishment of our MBA Alumnus, Thianthip Chueapetra. She received an MBA degree from Southern States University. You can read more about his experience here:

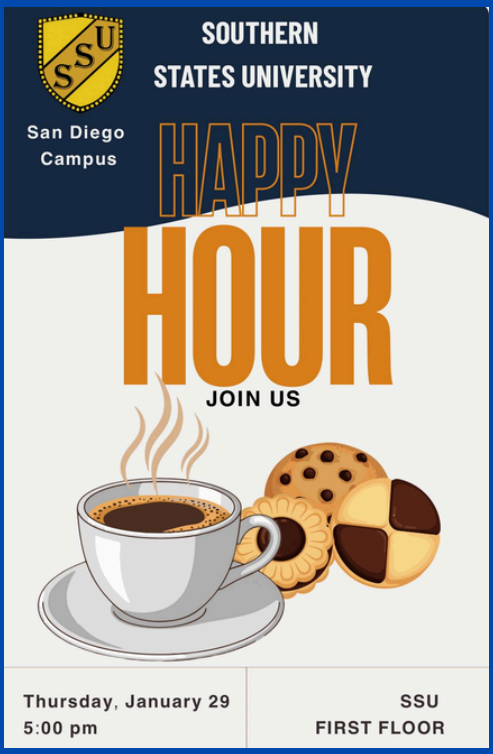
https://ssu.edu/student-testimonials/#thian

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# CAMPUS EVENTS







## WEBINAR: CAREER IN FINANCIAL SERVICES

SSU is pleased to announce a Seminar about "Career in Financial Services" hosted by Mr. Ricardo Matte. Mr. Matte is an SSU alumnus with 15+ years of experience as an entrepreneur in the finance field. Currently, Mr. Matte is the founder and CEO of Vincit Financial, a company focused on offering advisory services tailored to local cultures and regulations, combining global expertise with a close/ client-first approach.

The webinar will cover some subjects as:

- Mr. Matte's professional transition to the USA
- Career Paths in Financial Services
- How to Break Into Investment Banking / Consulting / Asset Management
- Skills Needed for Finance Careers in 2026+
- Networking & Personal Branding for Finance Students

**When: March 5th, 2026 (Thursday) at 4:00 PM Pacific Time**
**Where: Zoom**

Please check your email for Zoom Link or send an email to careerservices@ssu.edu.

We are looking forward to seeing you there.

# CAMPUS EVENTS




**Happy Hour at SSU San Diego**

Get ready for a campus favorite! Whether you're stopping by between classes or wrapping up the workday, join us for a classic Happy Hour at the San Diego Campus. Here are the details:

What: **Hot and Tasty Hotdogs & Happy Hour**
When: **Tuesday, April 28, 2026**
Time: **5:00 PM**
Where: **San Diego Campus**

Come grab a bite, catch up with the SSU community, and enjoy the evening. We can't wait to see you there! 🌭✨



# CAMPUS EVENTS




## Webinar: Employment Authorization in the U.S. for International Students

Are you an International Student? Would you like to know more about Employment Authorization in the U.S.?

This webinar is for you!

Topics:
- Eligibility
- Types of work authorization for F1 students
- How to get an SSN?
- Finding a job

**Date: June 18, 2026 (Thursday)**

Time: 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada) through Zoom

The SSU DSO, Ms. Paola Procida, will be available to answer your questions. Please submit your questions by Wednesday (6/17/2026) at 12:00 pm through the email careerservices@ssu.edu.

Please confirm your attendance via email at careerservices@ssu.edu with Aisha Cunha. You must provide your name and student ID number.

**STAY TUNED FOR UPCOMING EVENTS LIKE WEBINARS, COFFEE TALKS, STUDENT CLUBS, LUNCH TALKS,**

**FOLLOW US:**

# NOTABLE EVENTS DURING THE WINTER/SPRING 2026 QUARTERS

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## SSU ATTENDED THE 2026 HLC CONFERENCE

We extend our gratitude to our Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Mohammad Almuhana, for representing our institution at the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) annual conference this week in Chicago. Dr. Almuhana engaged deeply with the evolving accreditation process, gaining valuable insights into how major forces like AI and systemic change are driving student success. As SSU continues its journey toward accreditation, we look forward to applying these strategic takeaways to our upcoming milestones with the HLC.

Please join us in celebrating this milestone with us!




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