

2025 Trauma and Thriving Symposium

Friday, April 4, 2025
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
UTSA Main Campus

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UTSA[®]
Counseling

Symposium Schedule

8:00 am - 9:00 am	Registration
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Welcome & Keynote
10:15 am - 11:15 am	Content Sessions
11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Content Sessions
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch on Own
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Content Sessions
2:45 pm - 3:45 pm	Poster Presentations and Internship Site Fair
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Content Session & Final Remarks

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Facebook – Counselors Against Sex Trafficking Research Lab

Keynote

10:15 am-11:15 am

From Hardship to Healing: Transforming Trauma into Triumph

Dr. Laurel Jackson-Cook

Assistant Professor of Practice

UTSA Department of Counseling

Dr. Jackson-Cook shares her personal journey of overcoming childhood abuse and intimate partner violence to achieve resilience and success. Drawing from over 40 years of experience in counseling and social service leadership, she explores how trauma can be transformed into an opportunity for growth and purpose. Dr. Jackson-Cook highlights the importance of using one's pain to heal, not only for oneself but also for the betterment of others and society. Through her work with diverse populations, including survivors of domestic violence and addiction, she offers actionable insights on how professionals can help individuals move from survival to thriving. The keynote emphasizes the power of community, self-care, and turning hardship into a tool for positive change.



Dr. Jackson-Cook earned her PhD in Counselor Education and Supervision from the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA). She is an Assistant Professor of Practice at UTSA and also works in private practice, specializing in trauma and offering counseling services, including Neurofeedback and biofeedback. With over 40 years of experience, Dr. Jackson-Cook has worked with diverse populations, including children in Child Protective Services, victims of domestic violence, and individuals struggling with addiction.

She has led numerous initiatives to support families impacted by trauma, including starting the first restorative justice program in the Dallas Metroplex and helping establish the first Children's Advocacy Center in Dallas. Dr. Jackson-Cook also collaborated on the nationally recognized Strengthening Families Program by Dr. Karol Kumpfer, which has been adopted in 50 states and 36 countries. This family-centered program is recognized by multiple agencies, including NIDA, OJJDP, and SAMSHA, as an exemplary research-based model.

Dr. Jackson-Cook founded the first domestic violence shelter in Dallas, offering comprehensive social service and medical programs to help families heal and rebuild. In the late 1980s, she also started the first after-school program for single-parent families, providing tutoring, arts, and sports for school-aged children.

A certified EMDR clinician, Dr. Jackson-Cook is committed to improving lives through counseling, social service leadership, and community-based programs. She is currently working toward Biofeedback Certification International Alliance credentials and mentors master's level counseling students.

Content Sessions

10:15 am-11:15 am

1. Trauma in Childhood: Healing Through Play

Dr. Peggy Ceballos

Student Union Ballroom I & II (1.104 & 1.106)

Adverse Childhood Experiences [ACEs] represent childhood exposures to traumatic events which affect the development of physical and mental health problems. Studies show that children between the ages of two to nine years old are more likely to be designated in the high trauma level if they experienced two or more ACEs. Play therapy has emerged as an effective therapeutic approach to help children process traumatic experiences in a developmentally appropriate manner. Drawing from attachment theory and neurobiological research, this presentation will discuss trauma during childhood, how play serves as a natural medium for healing, and cultural considerations.

1 CEU for LPC or a Certificate of Attendance

2. Trauma Informed Supervision

Dr. John Harrichand, Dr. Ashley Cuevas, & David Thompson

Student Union Travis/Harris Combined Room (2.202 & 2.212)

Trauma-Informed Supervision (TIS) is an essential framework that integrates an understanding of trauma into the supervisory process to support supervisees effectively. This session defines TIS and its six key principles, emphasizing its role in counseling and related fields. Through the case of Sarah, participants will analyze the application of TIS, focusing on culturally responsive approaches and ethical considerations. Practical recommendations will be provided to implement TIS in ways that align with ethical guidelines and culturally competent practices. This session aims to enhance supervisors' ability to create supportive, trauma-informed environments that foster professional growth and resilience among supervisees.

1 Supervision CEU for LPC or a Certificate of Attendance

Content Sessions

11:30 am-12:30 pm

1. The Intersectionality of Neurodiversity and Trauma: the Double Vulnerability

Dr. Malvika Behl

Student Union Ballroom I & II (1.104 & 1.106)

This session explores the intersection of neurodiversity and trauma, highlighting the unique challenges that neurodivergent individuals face while navigating traumatic experiences. The presenter will define neurodiversity and emphasize how different concerns like communication differences, systemic barriers, and other factors heighten their vulnerability to trauma. Participants will gain insights into the complex relationship between trauma and neurodivergence, including the effects of social exclusion, stigma, and diagnostic challenges. Through interactive discussions, attendees will learn about existing neurodiversity-affirming techniques for counseling neurodivergent individuals and fostering inclusive, trauma-informed practices that promote resilience, self-advocacy, and healing for this underserved population.

1 Diversity CEU for LPC or a Certificate of Attendance

2. Enfoque Basado en el Trauma para Consejeros Bilingües (Spanish)

Dr. Claudia G. Interiano-Shiverdecker

Student Union Travis/Harris Combined Room (2.202 & 2.212)

Esta sesión se centrará en desarrollar una comprensión fundamental del trauma, aprender los principios del cuidado informado sobre el trauma y explorar cómo aplicar este conocimiento y vocabulario clínico en la consejería bilingüe. El vocabulario y los conceptos se enseñarán en español, considerando las necesidades culturales y lingüísticas únicas de los clientes bilingües. Los ejercicios y las discusiones interactivas proporcionarán a los participantes herramientas prácticas y vocabulario para trabajar con clientes de habla hispana que han experimentado trauma.

1 Diversity CEU for LPC or a Certificate of Attendance

Content Sessions

1:30 pm-2:30 pm

1. Ethics, Law, and Wellness Considerations when Working with Trauma

Dr. Michael Moyer

Student Union Ballroom I & II (1.104 & 1.106)

Working with trauma requires a deep understanding of ethics, law, and personal wellness to ensure effective care and client safety. Counselors must navigate complex legal frameworks, including mandatory reporting laws and confidentiality protections, while maintaining ethical standards of practice. Addressing trauma involves sensitive approaches to emotional healing, requiring counselors to be culturally competent and trauma informed. This session is an interactive discussion-based program focused on counselors understanding laws and ethical standards that apply when working with trauma. Attendees engage in large and small group discussions to gain a better understanding of these laws, ethical standards, and wellness strategies.

1 Ethics CEU for LPC or a Certificate of Attendance

2. Site-Supervisor Orientation: Strengthening Partnerships with UTSA

Dr. Priscilla Prasath & Dr. Claudia Interiano-Shiverdecker

Student Union Travis/Harris Combined Room (2.202 & 2.212)

Site supervisors play a pivotal role in shaping the next generation of counseling professionals. This interactive orientation session will provide an opportunity for supervisors affiliated with the UTSA Department of Counseling to reflect on their roles, share insights, and collaborate with faculty and peers. Attendees will gain valuable perspectives on common themes in student feedback regarding site experiences and supervision, allowing for a deeper understanding of strengths and areas for enhancement. Through open dialogue with the UTSA Clinical Committee faculty and fellow site supervisors, participants will explore best practices, exchange strategies, and reinforce their commitment to fostering meaningful and effective training environments. Join us for a dynamic discussion that will empower you to refine your supervisory approach and strengthen your partnership with UTSA.

1 Supervision CEU for LPC or a Certificate of Attendance

Content Sessions

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

1. From Research to Action: Preparing Counselors to Support Survivors of Sex Trafficking

Dr. Devon E. Romero, Dr. Claudia G. Interiano-Shiverdecker, &
Dr. Priscilla Rose Prasath

Student Union Ballroom I & II (1.104 & 1.106)

This program explores critical insights gained from research on working with survivors of sex trafficking. Presented by experts from the University of Texas at San Antonio's Counselors Against Sex Trafficking Research Lab, attendees will gain foundational knowledge about sex trafficking, including its prevalence, scope, and impact. The session will highlight warning signs and challenges counselors face when supporting survivors, such as trauma bonding and manipulation tactics. Additionally, participants will gain insights into best practices for identification, discuss ethical considerations, and learn practical strategies for delivering survivor-centered care through trauma-informed care with an emphasis on fostering post-traumatic growth. This presentation also speaks to strategies for self-care when working with this population gained directly from counselors in the field.

1 CEU for LPC or a Certificate of Attendance

CEU Certificates and Certificates of Attendance

You must complete a Sign-in Survey and Exit Survey for each session attended in order to receive your CEU Certificate or Certificate of Attendance. Sign-in and Exit Surveys will be available via QR codes at the start and conclusion of each session.

Poster Presentations

2:45 pm - 3:45 pm



Wired for Empathy: Neurobiological Insights into Vicarious Trauma

Simoné Raaths, BA

Counselors have an ethical responsibility to ensure that they provide the best possible services to clients, to look for signs of impairment within themselves and to engage in self-care (ACA, 2014). One phenomenon that can lead to counselor impairment is vicarious trauma (VT), which is a form of stress response experienced by counselors when exposed to clients' traumatic material for a prolonged period of time (Hadjiioannou, 2021). This indirect exposure to trauma can lead to symptoms similar to those of post-traumatic stress disorder. The development of VT involves several neurobiological components such as the activation of mirror neurons, amygdala, and the autonomic nervous system. Counselors are particularly vulnerable to VT because of the intense empathic nature of the therapeutic relationship and can affect counselors at any point of their career (Jackson-Cook, 2023). Understanding how VT develops from a biopsychosocial perspective can help counselors better combat VT.



Long-Term Effects of Attachment Disruption on Children

Alex Contreras, MS, LPC-Associate

Shirley's Closet is a nonprofit I founded to provide free formal attire to youth in need, including those impacted by trauma. By offering dresses for events like prom and graduation, this initiative helps build confidence and self-esteem. This poster highlights how community-driven efforts can support youth beyond traditional education settings. Grounded in research on self-worth and trauma-informed care, this presentation explores how simple acts of advocacy can create lasting change. Attendees will learn how they can contribute to similar initiatives in their own communities.

No CEU or Certificate of Attendance offered for Poster Presentations

Poster Presentations

2:45 pm - 3:45 pm



Creative Interventions in Trauma Therapy: A Guide to Best Practices

Lorelei Voronin, MS, LPC, ATR

This presentation aims to educate counselors and counselors-in-training on the ethical, developmentally appropriate, and culturally sensitive use of creative interventions when working with children who have experienced abuse. Current statistics of child abuse in the United States will highlight the societal impact and underscore the need for innovative methods in trauma counseling. The presentation covers current evidence-based research on Trauma-Focused Art Therapy with children who have experienced abuse, exploring both the limitations of existing research and the potential for future studies. Case examples will illustrate the ethical use of creativity in trauma work with this population. Additionally, the presentation will guide best practices for incorporating creative interventions in trauma therapy and identify implications for future research.



Exploring the Role of Trauma-Focused Training on Counselor Development During Internship

Christa Vento-Jones, BA; Arianna Robinson, MS, Resident in Counseling (VA); Devon E. Romero, PhD;

Claudia G. Interiano-Shiverdecker, PhD; & Priscilla Rose Prasath, PhD

The Counselors Against Sex Trafficking (CAST) Internship program offers student interns the unique opportunity to work with clients from diverse backgrounds including individuals who may have experienced trauma, domestic violence, and both physical and sexual abuse. The program provides students with trauma-informed training and interns utilize the resources given to them in practice at specialized sites focused on trauma recovery. This presentation will explore the experiences in the program that students deemed most valuable to their development as a counselor. Participants will gain insights into how initial training, supportive peer networks, hands-on experience and supervision contributed to counselor growth in building confidence, applying theoretical knowledge in real-world settings and transitioning into professional roles.

No CEU or Certificate of Attendance offered for Poster Presentations

Poster Presentations

2:45 pm - 3:45 pm



Climbing Towards Healing: An Innovative Approach for BIPOC Individuals with Trauma

Krystal Lázaro, MS, LPC Associate, NCC

With its recent inclusion in the Olympics, rock climbing has surged in global popularity, and researchers have begun to examine its physical and psychological benefits. Emerging literature provides evidence that rock climbing has the potential to be used as a therapeutic tool as it has demonstrated success in reducing symptoms of PTSD, depressive symptoms, and anxiety. This presentation explores therapeutic climbing as an innovative intervention for trauma, particularly within Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities, who disproportionately experience trauma in the United States. In this poster presentation, we will define bouldering, a type of rock climbing, review existing literature, discuss its potential application in counseling, and address future implications for research.



Counselors-in-Training and Adverse Childhood Experiences: Preliminary findings and implications for students, instructors, and supervisors

Michelle Muenich, BA; Donghun Lee, PhD, NCC; & Carin Miller, MS

Many counseling students enter their master's program because they want to help people who have had painful experiences or struggles similar to their own. The research we are currently conducting includes a survey of adverse childhood experiences, generalized anxiety, perfectionism, professional identity development, and attachment styles. We have surveyed 80 master's students in several counseling programs across different universities and will present preliminary findings that show counselors-in-training acknowledge higher than average levels of adverse childhood experiences. We will discuss the implications of these findings on the developing counselor-in-training as well as ways to support trainees who may encounter effects of these experiences as they progress through their master's program and begin their clinical training.

No CEU or Certificate of Attendance offered for Poster Presentations

Poster Presentations

2:45 pm - 3:45 pm



Childhood Experiences and Counselor Development: Examining Risk and Protective Factors

Carin Miller, MS & Michelle Muenich

Research has extensively documented the long-term effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) on mental health and professional functioning. More recently, Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs) have been examined as protective factors, contributing to resilience and emotional regulation. This literature review synthesizes findings on how ACEs and PCEs influence counselors' professional development, focusing on aspects such as emotional regulation, burnout susceptibility, secondary trauma, attachment styles, and stress responses. By examining existing studies, this presentation explores how early life experiences shape relational dynamics and stress management in counseling practice and implications for counselor education programs and supervision.



Impact of Trauma-Informed Training on Non-Clinical Staff and Correctional Facilities

Rachel E. King, M.S., LPC, LCDC

This poster explores the critical role of non-clinical staff in implementing trauma-informed care (TIC) within correctional treatment facilities, focusing on how TIC training impacts staff well-being, retention, and the overall environment. Without proper TIC training, misunderstandings of client behaviors can lead to punitive responses, re-traumatization, and increased staff stress, reducing job satisfaction and retention while hindering rehabilitation. By equipping non-clinical staff with TIC practices, organizations can foster a supportive work culture, enhance staff well-being, and improve client outcomes. Policy implications emphasize expanding and strengthening TIC training to create safer, healthier work environments that benefit both employees and the justice-involved population.

No CEU or Certificate of Attendance offered for Poster Presentations

Student Internship Site Fair

2:45 pm - 3:45 pm

Looking for a practicum or internship site?
Check out the Internship Site Fair and connect
with prospective site supervisors from a
number of affiliated-sites.

1. Bariatric Counseling Center
3. BCFS HHS HTI COMMON THREAD
5. Bexar County Juvenile Probation Department
7. Catholic Charities
9. Children's Alliance of South Texas
11. Communities In Schools of San Antonio
13. Ellie Mental Health
15. Family Violence Prevention Services, Inc.
17. Grace Counseling
19. Guadalupe County Children's Advocacy Center
21. Jewish Family Services
23. Living Tree New Braunfels Counseling Center PLLC
25. Magdalene House of Austin
27. Northwest Vista Community College
29. Nueva Vida Behavioral Health Associates
31. Our Lady of the Lake University
33. Respite Care of San Antonio
35. River City Advocacy and Counseling Center
37. San Antonio College Student Advocacy Center
39. Texas A&M University-San Antonio Student Counseling Center
41. Texas State University Career Services
43. Usawa Wellness Services
45. Wellness 360 Counseling Center at UTSA
47. Zeitgeist Wellness Group/HIP Healthy Innovative Processes

...and more!



Presenters



John J. S. Harrichand, Ph.D., LPC-S, LMHC, NCC, CCMHC, ACS, CCTP

**Assistant Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio
CAST Research Lab Affiliate Faculty**

John J. S. Harrichand, Ph.D., LPC-S, LMHC, NCC, CCMHC, ACS, CCTP is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Counseling at The University of Texas at San Antonio. Born and raised in Guyana, South America, Dr. Harrichand began his academic journey at the University of Toronto at Scarborough, earning an Honors Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Integrative Biology. He later pursued a Master of Arts in Counselling at Providence Theological Seminary in Canada and completed a CACREP-accredited Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision at Liberty University. Dr. Harrichand has over ten years of experience as a professional counselor and has worked in various clinical and behavioral health settings. His research focuses on counselor supervision, gatekeeping, culturally responsive care for Guyanese Americans, and the experiences of sex trafficking survivors. He actively advocates legislative advocacy and mentors master's and doctoral students in research and professional development. An accomplished scholar and presenter, Dr. Harrichand has published and presented nationally on trauma-informed supervision, cultural humility, and mental health accessibility. He is also dedicated to expanding mental health education through collaborations with community organizations. In his personal time, he enjoys traveling and exploring diverse cultural cuisines.



Ashley Cuevas, Ph.D., LPC-S, NCC

Assistant Professor of Practice, University of Texas at San Antonio

Ashley Cuevas, Ph.D., LPC-S, NCC is an Assistant Professor of Practice in the Department of Counseling at The University of Texas at San Antonio. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor and board approved supervisor in Texas with experience servicing clients around grief, depression, and relationship issues. Dr. Cuevas serves as the Clinical Director of The Sarabia Family Counseling Center, which is an on-site training clinic at UTSA. Within her role as clinical director, she mentors and teaches master's and doctoral level courses specific to their practicum and internship experiences.

Presenters



David Thompson, M.A., LPC-S

Doctoral Student, University of Texas at San Antonio

David Thompson, M.A., LPC-S, Doctoral Student is a third-year doctoral student in the Department of Counseling at The University of Texas at San Antonio. He has 14 years of experience working as a Licensed Professional Counselor in the state of Texas, adding the credential of LPC Supervisor in 2020. David's previous clinical work settings include community behavioral health and substance misuse treatment, college and university counseling centers, and private practice. For several years, David worked as a Mental Health First Aid instructor and mental health trauma responder, with notable deployments to those displaced by Hurricane Harvey and to the community of Uvalde, TX after the shooting at Robb Elementary School. In addition to his graduate studies, David works as a clinician and supervisor in private practice, a graduate research assistant with the Counselors Against Sex Trafficking (CAST) research lab at UTSA, and as Lead Supervisor at the Sarabia Family Counseling Center, an on-site training clinic at UTSA's downtown campus which offers free counseling services to the community of San Antonio. His current research focuses on qualitative research methods, clinical supervision, and the role of power and social norms in the supervisory relationship. Outside his academic or work endeavors, you can find him biking around town, tending to or admiring gardens, and curating playlists for friends and family.



Peggy L. Ceballos, Ph.D., LPC-Associate, NCC

Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio

Peggy Ceballos is a professor at the University of Texas at San Antonio. Dr. Ceballos' research agenda focuses on culturally informed play therapy interventions and parent/teacher play therapy-based training interventions. She has published numerous peer-reviewed publications and has worked on several Federal funded grant that seeks to address health disparities by enhancing the delivery of trauma-informed bilingual mental health services to minoritized children, adolescents, and transitional-aged youth. Dr. Ceballos' teaching specialties include play therapy, multicultural counseling, teaching pedagogies, and school counseling. Dr Ceballos is past president of Chi Sigma Iota International, has conducted over 70 professional presentations and has been the recipient of 12 professional awards.

Presenters



Malvika Behl, Ph.D., LPC (TX), NCC, School Counselor (OH)

Assistant Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio

Malvika Behl (she/her/hers), Ph.D., LPC (TX), NCC, School Counselor (OH), is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Counseling at the University of Texas at San Antonio. She received her master's degree in counseling from Lindenwood University and a Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision from the University of Toledo, Ohio. Her research interest primarily focuses on a) the experience of international students in counselor education, b) the mental health of adults and children with Specific Learning disabilities, c) the impact of the diagnosis of a Specific Learning Disability on the family system, and d) mental health of neurodivergent people. Her clinical experience as a mental health counselor involves working with college students, children, and adolescents.



Claudia G. Interiano-Shiverdecker

**Associate Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio
CAST Research Lab Co-Founder**

Dr. Claudia G. Interiano-Shiverdecker is a Fulbright Scholar and an Associate Professor in the Department of Counseling at the University of Texas at Antonio. She received her master's degree in clinical mental health counseling from the University of Wisconsin-Stout and a Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor in the State of Texas specialized in providing bilingual counseling services to Spanish-speaking populations. Previously, she was a licensed psychologist in Honduras and worked with Spanish-speaking adolescents. Her research primarily focuses on (a) social justice and multicultural considerations for marginalized communities, particularly the Latinx community; (b) counseling competencies to work with trauma and specific populations vulnerable to trauma; (c) advocating for underrepresented populations in higher education and (d) bilingual counseling and supervision. Since 2015, she has been involved in some capacity with both large externally funded and institutionally funded projects focused on advocating for refugees, sex trafficking victims, and bilingual counselors. For example, along with colleagues at UTSA she received a \$396,705 grant by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to develop a clinical placement program called Counselors Against Sex Trafficking. She is the coordinator for the Bilingual Counseling Certificate and the Study Abroad program to Oaxaca, Mexico in the Department of Counseling at the University of Texas at San Antonio. She co-authored the book, *Preparing Culturally Efficacious Bilingual Counselors through Theory and Case Studies*.

Presenters



Michael Moyer, Ph.D., LPC-S

Professor and Chair for the Department of Counseling, Health, & Kinesiology, Texas A&M University San Antonio

Michael Moyer, Ph.D., LPC-S is a Professor and Chair for the Department of Counseling, Health & Kinesiology at Texas A&M University – San Antonio. He specializes in non-suicidal Self-injury, ethical and legal issues in counseling.



Devon E. Romero, Ph.D., LPC, NCC

**Associate Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio
CAST Research Lab Co-Founder**

Dr. Devon E. Romero is an Associate Professor and Director of the Counselor Education and Supervision Doctoral Program in the Department of Counseling. She obtained her master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision from the University of Alabama. As a National Certified Counselor and Licensed Professional Counselor in Texas, Dr. Romero has specialized experience with trauma, neurofeedback, marriage and family counseling, and child and adolescent counseling.

Dr. Romero's research primarily focuses on studying trauma among historically marginalized, at-risk, and underserved populations including: (a) children and youth and (b) individuals who have experienced sex trafficking. She utilizes complementary interventions and evidence-based outcome research for informing counselor training, research, and practice. Dr. Romero has over a decade of experience working with and managing large federally funded projects, smaller externally funded projects, and institutionally funded research. More recently, along with colleagues at UTSA, she led a Counselors Against Sex Trafficking program funded by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to increase clinical placements for counselors-in-training in medically underserved communities. She is the co-founder of the Counselors Against Sex Trafficking Research Lab (www.castrl.com) and serves as the Chapter Faculty Advisor for the Sigma Alpha Chi Chapter of Chi Sigma Iota. Within the profession, Dr. Romero currently serves as the Secretary of Chi Sigma Iota International and the Treasurer of the Texas Association for Counselor Education and Supervision.

Presenters



Priscilla Rose Prasath, Ph.D., LPC

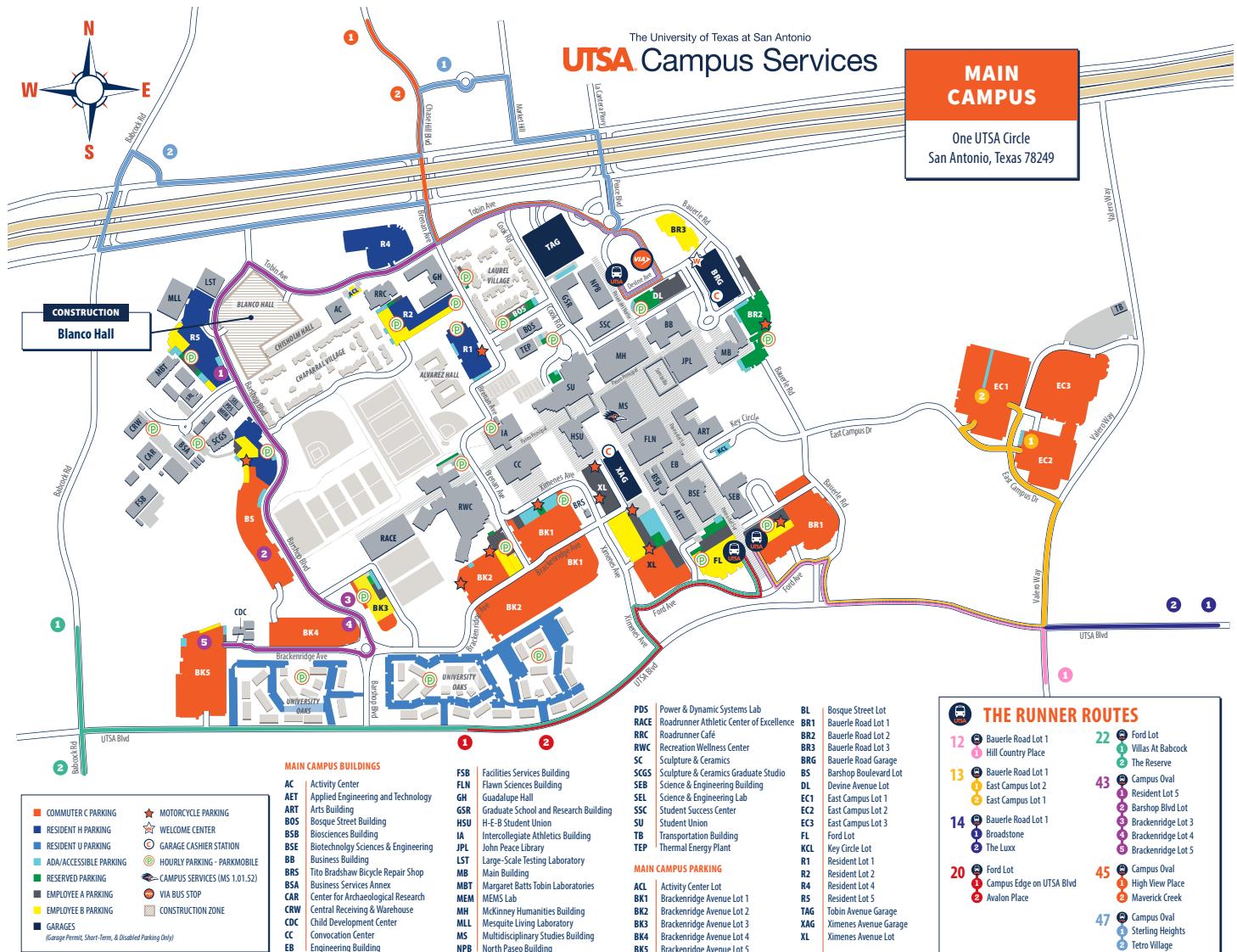
**Associate Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio
CAST Research Lab Affiliate Faculty**

Dr. Priscilla Rose Prasath (Ph.D., LPC, MBA, GCSC; co-PI) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Counseling. She graduated with a Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision from Ohio University. Dr. Prasath is a Licensed Professional Counselor and has been providing clinical counseling for over 10 years to diverse client populations. The overarching focus of her research agenda is to augment counselor competence in the promotion of mental health and well-being by leveraging a strengths-based positive psychological lens, spanning two interrelated research pathways: (a) training and program development and (b) innovative counseling and teaching practices. She has pursued nearly \$1.137 million in competitive research funds and authored 29 peer-reviewed publications and over 75 conference presentations. She holds several leadership positions including Director of the Strengths and Wellbeing – Innovation Research Lab and affiliate faculty at CAST Research Lab at UTSA, and President-Elect and Secretary of the Association for Specialists in Group Counseling (ASGW), a national division of the American Counseling Association (ACA). She is the recipient of the Texas Counseling Association (TCA) Research Award, Professional Advancement Award by ASGW, Professional Writing Award by TCA, and nominee of UTSA Presidential Teaching Excellence Award, both in 2023 and 2021. She served as the training consultant for the THECB grant awarded to Dr. Romero and Dr. Interiano-Shiverdecker, where she coordinates sex trafficking-specific training for students at UTSA. Due to her expertise in curriculum development, she has been invited to be a part of large program development initiatives at departmental, university, and professional levels.



UTSA Main Campus

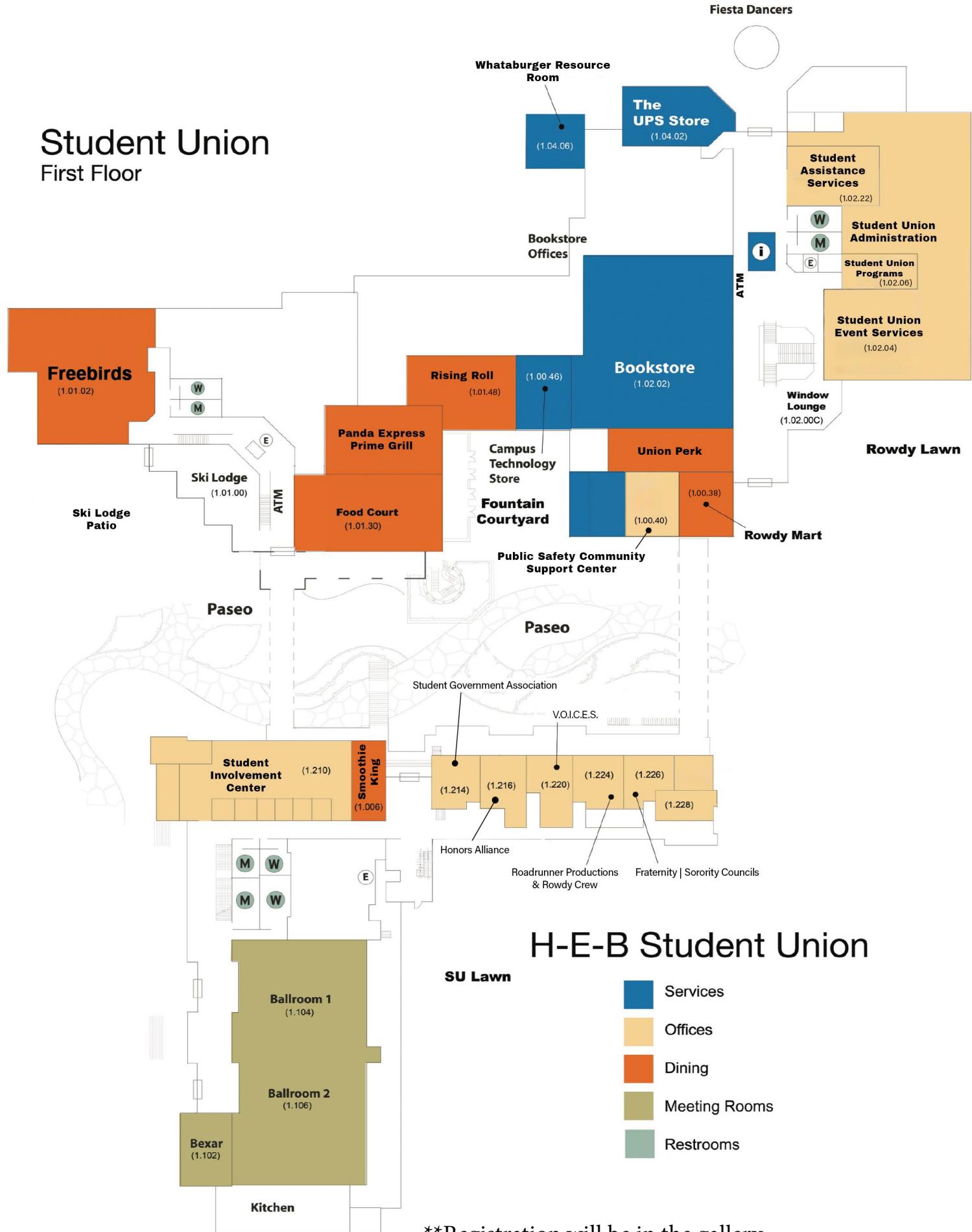
Parking Map



[Click here for ADA and Disabled Veteran Parking information](#)

Student Union

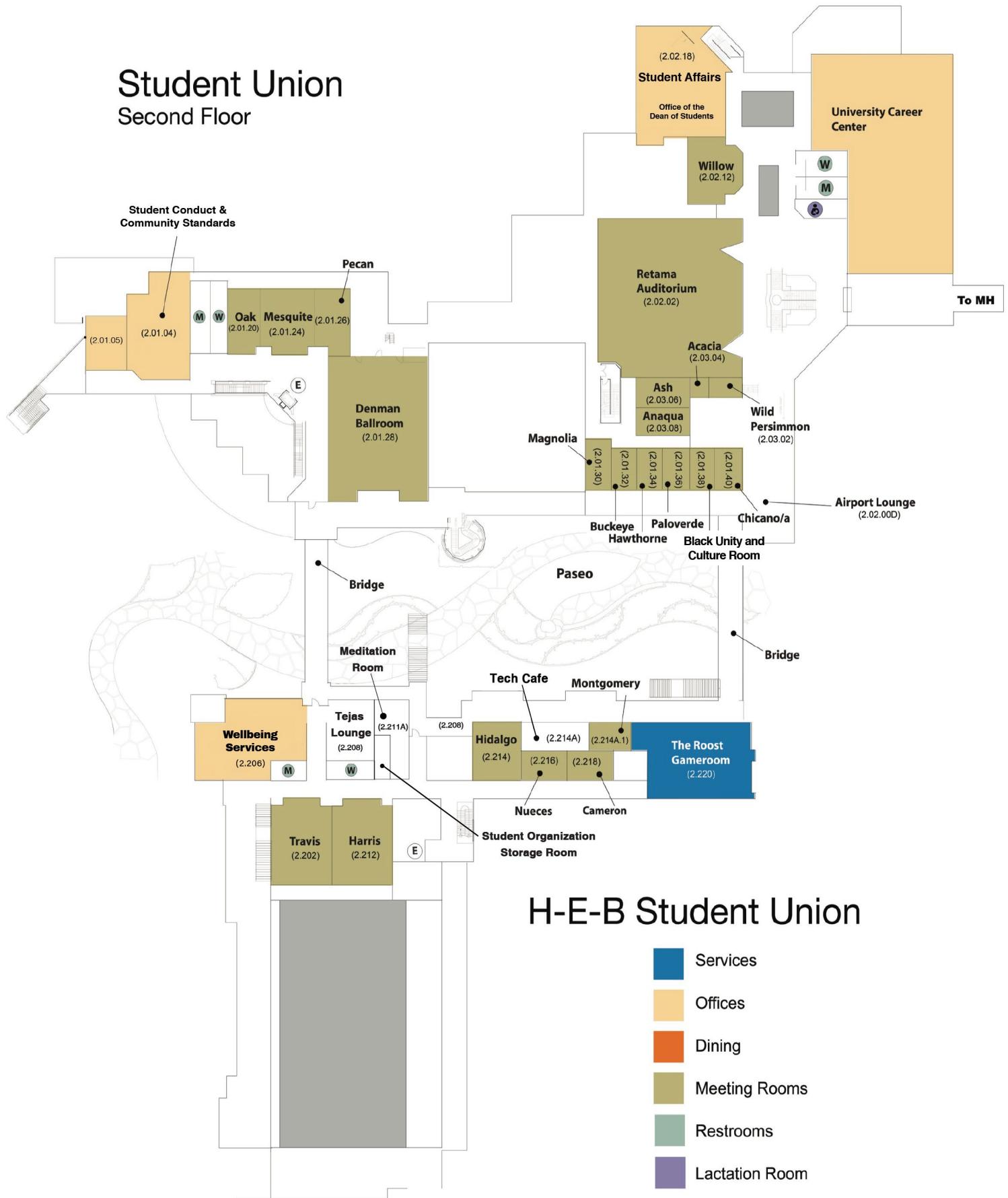
First Floor



**Registration will be in the gallery outside of Ballroom I and II.

Student Union

Second Floor



H-E-B Student Union

- Services
- Offices
- Dining
- Meeting Rooms
- Restrooms
- Lactation Room

ROADRUNNER CAFÉ DINING

Roadrunner Café

Monday - Thursday: 7 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Friday: 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sunday: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Rowdymart Express

Monday - Thursday: 7 a.m. - 2 a.m.
Friday: 7 a.m. - 11 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. - 11 p.m.
Sunday: 10 a.m. - 12 a.m.

Late Nite Grill

Monday - Thursday: 10 p.m. - 2 a.m.
Friday - Saturday: 7 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Sunday: 9 p.m. - 12 a.m.

JOHN PEACE LIBRARY

Chick-fil-A

Monday - Thursday: 7 a.m. - 11 p.m.
Friday: 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday: 10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Starbucks

Monday - Thursday: 6:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Friday: 6:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sunday: 12 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Freshens Fresh Food Studio

Monday - Thursday: 10:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Friday: 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Subway

Monday - Thursday: 10:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Friday: 10:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday: CLOSED
Sunday: 12 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Sushic

Monday - Thursday: 10:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Friday: 10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Dragon Bowlz

Monday - Thursday: 10:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Friday: 10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

RowdyMart

Monday - Thursday: 7 a.m. - 1 a.m.
Friday: 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sunday: 12 p.m. - 7 p.m.

STUDENT UNION

Panda Express

Monday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Friday: 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Freebirds

Monday - Thursday: 10:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Friday: CLOSED

Rising Roll

Monday - Thursday: 7 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Friday: CLOSED

RowdyMart

Monday - Thursday: 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Smoothie King

Monday - Thursday: 7:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Prime Grill

Monday - Thursday: 10:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Friday: 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Union Perk at the Rowdy Campus Store

Monday - Thursday: 7 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Friday: 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Thank You!