Welcome to MATH 1215.502: Intermediate Algebra Fall 2026

(Online/Zoom Class)

Class Information

Instructor
Jacob McKenney
coolguy@unm.edu
Office: Thursdays 4-5pm
Zoom

Class Details: M & W 4:30-5:45
Online/Zoom
CRN

Student Help Hours: Office Hr. over Zoom

Zoom link:
https://unm.zoom.us/j/96965030598

Passcode: None

MECS Division Chair:
Andy Taylor
ataylor19@unm.edu

Course Description:

Math 1215 is a study of linear and quadratics functions, an introduction to polynomial, absolute value, rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Development of strategies for solving single variable equations and contextual problems.

Credit-hour statement:

This is a three credit-hour course delivered in an entirely online/zoom modality over 16 weeks of the Fall 2026 semester. Please plan for a *minimum* of 9 to 12 hours per week to learn course materials and complete assignments.

Prerequisites:

Appropriate placement score or a grade of C or better in Math 100 or Math 022 or FYEX 1010 or ISM 100 or ACT Math =>18 or SAT Math Section =>490 or ACCUPLACER Next-Generation Advanced Algebra and Functions =>228, or QRAS=>248, or Arithmetic=>285, or LCPMAS score 4-5. Check with your adviser to make sure you meet the requirements.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will build on their knowledge of linear and quadratic functions and will begin to build an understanding of absolute value, polynomial, rational, power, radical, exponential and logarithmic functions in the following contexts: ***Completing Math 1215 meets the prerequisites for Math 1130, Math 1350, Math 1220, and some science classes.***

1. Demonstrate appropriate use of basic function language and notation.
2. Convert between equivalent forms of algebraic expressions.
3. Solve single-variable equations of the types listed above.
4. Interpret and communicate algebraic solutions graphically and numerically.
5. Demonstrate contextual problem-solving skills that include setting up and solving problems and interpreting solutions in context.
6. Apply appropriate problem-solving methods from among algebraic, graphical, and numerical.

Course Materials:

Textbook: "Developmental Mathematics," 2nd edition, by Sullivan, Struve, Mazzarella. You will access the E-text and online homework assignments through the Access Pearson courseware link in Canvas, do not opt out or purchase the book or code elsewhere. You will be charged through your Bursar's account.
Optional: You may "upgrade" your access by purchasing a hard copy of the book directly from Pearson for an additional cost (between $50 and $60 before tax). There will be copies of the book on reserve for use in the tutoring center (you will not be able to take the book home).

Other Requirements:

- Reliable access to a computer or tablet, and Internet. A computer (laptop or desktop) is recommended. Preferred browsers are Chrome, Firefox, or Safari. The preferred operating systems are Windows or Apple.
- Administrative rights to download free software or plug-ins or add-ons on the computer you plan to use for this course. The first time you log in to the MyMathLab (MML) homepage, run the Installation Wizard to ensure you have all the appropriate software installed. Also, make sure you are allowing popups.
- Access to UNM Canvas requires you to use your UNM NetID to log into UNM Canvas. You may access it directly via canvas.unm.edu
- Standard or Scientific calculator. It cannot be an app on your cell phone.
- Adobe Reader (a free download), preferably version 11.0 or better

Expectations:

- Students are expected to conduct themselves in a polite, courteous, professional, and collegial manner. When participating in discussions or interacting with me or other students, be respectful at all times.
- Students are expected to complete all online unit assignments by 11:59 pm Monday of each week. Problems with the internet, Canvas, or MML are not excuses for turning in late work, as you have an entire week to complete the assignments.
- Time for This Course: Plan to spend a *minimum* of 6 to 9 hours per week for this class. There is no guarantee you will pass if you dedicate this amount of time, you still need to learn the material and use your time wisely, but those who pass generally are the ones who spend the time needed to do the work to learn the material.

Absences: Although this class is entirely online/zoom, you are expected to log into Canvas and complete assignments as directed. This is a scheduled class with due dates that must be met.

Here are the reasons I may drop you from the class:

- If you miss the first week of the semester.
- If you are not registered in MML and completing assignments by the end of the first week you are in the class.

Attendance / Participation

You are expected to log in to Canvas and MyMathLab at least once weekly to complete all assignments by the due date. Even though attendance is not necessarily mandatory, it is strongly encouraged that you attend class via zoom on the scheduled days and times to receive live lectures, especially if you struggle in math.

Submitting Written Work:

Each unit will have a set of guided notes due by 11:59 pm on Monday each week for full credit(unless otherwise noted). **It must be saved as a pdf document (not converted to pdf) and submitted correctly to receive full credit**. If you have questions about how to do this, please don't hesitate to ask.

- All written assignments should be neat, legible, and include detailed and justified work. Any work that is illegible or lacks process/explanation/justification will not receive credit. Please show ALL your work, you can earn partial credit for understanding even if you make a calculation error.
- All written assignments must be submitted in the appropriate Canvas dropbox/assignment submission, in the correct format (saved as a pdf of the original document), on time in order to be accepted. If it does not open properly on my end, you will receive a 0 grade. Do NOT copy and paste an image of your work to a word document and then save as a pdf—this makes your work VERY difficult to read and will not be accepted.
- In order to convert your file to a PDF, you have a couple easy options: PLEASE ASK IF YOU NEED FURTHER CLARIFICATIONS.
    1. Use a traditional printer/scanner (some available on UNM Valencia/UNM Main Campus) in order to create the PDF of your work, download to your computer/storage device, and upload the file in the appropriate dropbox.

    2. Download the free `Adobe Scan' app for your smartphone, create a PDF using your phone's camera in the app, send a copy to your email, download the file on your computer/storage device, and upload the file in the Canvas dropbox.

Guided Notes

There are 12 units in this course and there is a set of guided notes for each unit. Read the e-text, attend class via zoom, and review the PowerPoint presentations available in Canvas to help complete these notes. The Guided notes are due by 11:59 pm Monday (otherwise noted) on the date due and will NOT be accepted late. The notes must be saved and uploaded correctly to receive credit.

Online MyMathLab Homework

Homework is assigned every week based on the 12 units in the course outline. Weekly assignments in MML must be completed by 11:59 pm on Monday of each week for full credit (check syllabus). The online homework cannot be made up! Each online homework assignment is worth 10 points.
DO NOT consider any of the grades posted in MyMathLab as representing your actual grade.

Unit Quizzes

Each unit will have a quiz to be completed by11:59 pm Monday of each week (check syllabus). You will have 15 minutes to complete the quiz, you are allowed one 3 X 5 notecard front and back for the quiz, you cannot use a calculator or any other notes. Print the quiz for you to use as study material for the final exam (if feasible). Quizzes cannot be made up, so make sure you complete it by the due date.

Late Policy:

All online work and the guided notes are to be submitted by 11:59 pm on Monday of the week due (otherwise noted in the syllabus).
I will not accept the guided notes after the due date. Exams cannot be made up! (Please communicate with me if I need to be aware of certain situations)

Midterm Exams

There will be two written exams/Midterms during the semester. The dates are listed on the schedule at the end of the syllabus. The exams must be taken ***in person*** on the day scheduled, if you cannot take it at the time offered, you must take it at the testing center the same day/during scheduled week. If you cannot, you must make arrangements with me to take it **before** the scheduled date. They cannot be made up!

Final Exam

The final is a departmental exam that will test all, or nearly all, of the learning objectives for Math 1215, units 1-12. The final exam will include topics from Math 1215X, Y and Z. You are allowed a 3 X 5 notecard front and back for the final exam, no calculator or any other notes are allowed. The final exam must be taken ***in person*** on the day scheduled, if you cannot take it at the time offered, you must take it at the testing center the same day/week of scheduled exam. If you cannot, you must make arrangements with me to take it **before** the scheduled date. You cannot do corrections on the final exam. You are allowed to take the final exam only once. You must have a 70% course average to earn a passing grade, but this should not be a problem if you have been completing your work and showing progress.

- There is a final exam review in Pearson MyMathLab (it's 5% of grade) or a hard copy I can assign for your assistance in preparing for the final exam, not for a grade, but you are strongly encouraged to complete to be better prepared to pass the exam.

Support: If you are struggling in this course, do not be afraid to ask for help!

- Ask My Instructor: Please use the Ask My Instructor button in MyMathLab. This button is available in the computational assignments and the final exam review and sends a message to my email with a link to the question. Do not just send the link; tell me where in the problem you are struggling.
- Office Hours: Thursdays 4-5pm, log in to Zoom for online office hours or make an appointment to get help.
- Free Tutoring: The Math Center at Valencia campus has free tutoring and open labs. Call 505-925-8907 for more information. CAPS on main campus also provides tutoring for which I can get documentation.
- Student Services: There are various services provided in our Student Services Department. See below about equal access. Also, we have a testing center, advising, and career placement available: Valencia Student Services

Instructor Response Time:

I routinely check the course for postings or emails, Monday (7 am) – Friday (noon), and sometimes on the weekend. You can anticipate a 24 to 48-hour response from me, Monday – Thursday. I will try and respond to all weekend (Friday afternoon to Sunday) emails and postings by noon on Monday or earlier. I prefer all communication through UNM Canvas.

Course Averages:

Guided Notes	10%
Unit Quizzes	15%
Online Homework	10%
Midterms	30%
Final Exam Review	5%
Final Exam (Cumulative—units 1-12)	30%
Total	**100%**

***You must have a course average of 70% or better to earn a passing grade in the course.**

Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	Course Weighted Average
A	90% or better
B	80% to 89%
C	70% to 79%
D	50% to 69%
F	Below 50%

Semester Deadlines

Connecting to Campus and Finding Support: UNM has many resources and centers to help you thrive, including opportunities to get involved, mental health resources, academic support such as tutoring, resource centers for people like you, free food at Valencia Campus Food Pantry, and jobs on campus. Your advisor, staff at the resource centers and Academic Affairs Office, and I can help you find the right opportunities for you.

Campus Support: PASOS Resource Center (505) 925-8546, mailto:pasos@unm.edu. The Resource Center is an on-campus center that serves as a "one-stop" for all non-academic needs of UNM-Valencia students.

For Military Connected Students: There are resources on campus designed to help you succeed. You can approach any faculty or staff for help with any issues you may encounter. Many faculty and staff have completed the GREEN ZONE training to learn about the unique challenges facing military-connected students. If you feel that you need help beyond what faculty and/or staff can give you, please reach out to the Veterans Resource Center on main campus at 505-277-3181, or by email at vrc@unm.edu. The Veterans Coordinator at UNM-Valencia is in the Student Services Office, at 505-925-8560.

Land Acknowledgement: Founded in 1889, the University of New Mexico sits on the traditional homelands of the Pueblo of Sandia. The original peoples of New Mexico Pueblo, Navajo, and Apache since time immemorial, have deep connections to the land and have made significant contributions to the broader community statewide. We honor he land itself and those who remain stewards of this land throughout the generations and also acknowledge our committed relationship to Indigenous peoples. We gratefully recognize our history.

University Policies:

Accommodations:

UNM is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for students with documented disabilities. As your instructor, it is my objective to facilitate an inclusive classroom setting, in which students have full access and opportunity to participate. To engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting reasonable accommodations for this class and/or program, please contact Accessibility Resource Center at arcsrvs@unm.edu or by phone at 505-277-3506. The UNM-Valencia Equal Access Services (Sarah Clawson, Coordinator), at (505) 925-8840 or by email at sjclawson@unm.edu.

Title IX: UAP 2720 and 2740. Our classroom and university should always be spaces of mutual respect, kindness, and support, without fear of discrimination, harassment, or violence. If you ever need assistance or have concerns about incidents that violate this principle, please access campus support resources. These include confidential services at LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center, the Women's Resource Center, and the LGBTQ Resource Center. The University of New Mexico prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex (including gender, sex stereotyping, gender expression, and gender identity). UNM faculty and graduate teaching assistants are considered "responsible employees." "Responsible employees" must communicate reports of sexual

harassment, sexual misconduct and sexual violence to Compliance, Ethics and Equal Opportunity. For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, reporting, and reporting for "responsible employees," please see UAP 2720 and UAP 2740.

If you are pregnant or experiencing a pregnancy-related condition, you may contact UNM's Office of Compliance, Ethics, and Equal Opportunity at ceeo@unm.edu. The CEEO staff will provide you with access to available resources and supportive measures and assist you in understanding your rights. Pregnancy and Parenting Support information is available here.

Academic Integrity:

Having academic integrity is paramount to your success in any class. Plagiarism or cheating is not tolerated. Any instance of this will result in a grade of zero for that assignment. Here is the link to the UNM Academic Dishonesty Policy:
https://policy.unm.edu/regents-policies/section-4/4-8.html. The policy states:
Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or who otherwise fails to meet the expected standards. Any student judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in course work may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course.

Academic Dishonesty is defined as:

"Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.

Math 1215: Intermediate Algebra (Fall 2026) (*Course outline is subject to change*)

Week	Dates	Sections / Topics	Written Assignments, MML, and quizzes due
1	8/17-8/21	***Go over Syllabus*** ***Unit 1: Sects: 8.3, 8.4, 8.6***	**Guided notes, online MML homework, and unit quizzes are due by 11:59 pm on Mondays.**
2	8/24-8/28	*Unit 2: Sects: 8.8, 9.1, 9.2, 9.3*	**Unit 1 Due Monday 8/24** MML online Guided notes Quiz 1 Online

3	8/31-9/4	*Unit 3: Sects: 9.4, 9.5, 9.6*	**Unit 2 Due Monday 8/31** MML online Guided notes Quiz 2 Online
4	9/7-9/11	*Unit 4: Sects: 10.1, 10.2, 10.3*	**Unit 3 Due Tuesday 9/8** MML online Guided notes Quiz 3 Online
5	9/14-9/18	***Midterm I*** **Wednesday 9/16** **4:30-5:45pm** **In person with me/Testing location**	**Unit 4 Due Tuesday 9/15** MML online Guided notes Quiz 4 Online Location of exam #1
6	9/21-9/25	*Unit 5: Sects: 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.4, 11.6*	
7	9/28-10/2	*Unit 6: Sects: 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4*	**Unit 5 Due Monday 9/28** MML online Guided notes Quiz 5 Online
8	10/5-10/9	*Unit 7: Sects: 14.1, 14.2, 14.3, 14.4*	**Unit 6 Due Monday 10/5** MML online Guided notes Quiz 6 Online
	10/12-10/16	*Unit 8: Sects: 15.1, 16.1, 16.2, 16.5*	**Unit 7 Due Monday 10/12** MML online Guided notes Quiz 7 Online
9	10/19-10/23	***Midterm 2*** **Wednesday, 10/21** **4:00 pm- 5:45 pm** **With me in person or testing locations**	**Unit 8 Due Monday 10/19** MML online Guided notes Quiz 8 Online Location of exam #2
10	10/26-10/30	*Unit 9: Sects: 13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 13.5*	
11	11/2-11/6	*Unit 10: Sects: 13.6, 13.7, 14.6, 14.7*	**Unit 9 Due Monday 11/2** MML online Guided notes Quiz 9 Online

12	11/9-11/13	*Unit 11: Sects: 15.2, 15.3, 15.4, 15.8*	**Unit 10 Due Monday 11/9** MML online Guided notes Quiz 10 Online
13	11/16-11/20	*Unit 12: Sects:17.2, 17.3, 17.4*	**Unit 11 Due Monday 11/16** MML online Guided notes Quiz 11 Online
14	11/23-11/27	***Review for Final Exam??***	**Unit 12 Due Monday 11/23** MML online Guided notes Quiz 12 Online Location of Final Exam
15	11/30-12/4	***Review for Final Exam***	**Final Exam Review Due 12/4**
Final exam	12/7-12/11	**Final Exam Wednesday, 12/9 4-6 pm**	