Math 1996: Critical Thinking in Mathematics

Fall 2026
2 Credit Hours
Instructor: Michelle Godfrey
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Sec	CRN	Class Time	Days	Location
502	66795	10:50am –11:40am	Tues & Thurs	VAAS 129

Tutoring Hours:

Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:15pm – 2:15pm in the Learning Center

Critical Thinking for Mathematics (2 credit hours) will help students develop and implement strategies for mathematics achievement throughout their academic career and beyond

Placement: Math 1996 is required of all students who place into Math 100. Co-requisite: Math 100. Meaning You must take both classes together.

Credit-hour Statement: This is a two-hour course. Class meets for two 50-minute sessions of direct instruction for sixteen weeks during the Spring 2026 semester. Please plan for a minimum of four hours of out-of-class work (or homework, study, assignment completion, and class preparation) each week.

Student Learning Outcomes/Course Objectives: Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Develop academic skills as a foundation for academic learning.
- Employ critical thinking skills in problem solving.
- Utilize multiple problem-solving strategies and methods.
- Develop a mathematical awareness of the world.
- Expand confidence in mathematical ability.
- **Textbook and Supplemental Materials**

Required Textbooks: *NONE!*
Course Materials:

- Reliable access to a computer or laptop and the internet is required
- Access to UNM Canvas
- Standard or 4-function calculator. This cannot be an app on your phone.

COURSEWORK AND PARTICIPATION

Instructor Response Time

I routinely check the course and my emails, Monday (8 am) – Friday (noon). I do not check emails on the weekends. 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 the end of the day on Tuesday.

Procedures for Completing Coursework and Late Policy

- Weekly assignments must be completed not later than the due date for full credit. ***You must notify your instructor if you wish to work on an assignment that is past due***. A 30% penalty may be incurred for late pending circumstances.
- All written work needs to be turned in at the beginning of class.
- **No assignments will be accepted more than a week past the due date.**

Attendance and Participation (30% of your final grade)

- You are expected to attend every class meeting on time and stay the entire class. Points will be deducted for tardiness or leaving early.
- There will be class activities, discussions, and group collaboration.
- You are expected to contribute to and/or participate in all activities, discussions, and collaborations.

  Absences: I do not require documentation for missing a class. I do ask that you communicate with me via UNM email. If you start to fall behind, please talk to me so we can figure out what you need to do to succeed in this class. You are expected to complete all assignments missed during absences.

Here are some of the reasons you may be dropped from the course:

- If you miss the first week of the semester
- If you miss more than 3 classes
- If you miss 3 or more assignments without contacting me to discuss making them up **If you are dropped from or withdraw from Math 100, you will be dropped from Math 1996**

Do not depend on me to drop you if you decide not to take the class. You are responsible for withdrawing if you decide not to complete the course.

Class Activities/Discussions (40% of your final grade)

- There will be daily activities, videos, discussions, group work, etc. that will correspond with your math 100 class.
- These activities will be completed mostly in class, and you are responsible for any missed due to absence. If you need more time than given in class to complete, it will be due at the beginning of the next class

Final Project (30% of your grade)

Your final project will consist of a presentation on the mathematical topic or learning concept of your choice. The presentation should be 8-12 minutes. You can present using Powerpoint, a written paper, poster, or any reasonable tools to aid with your presentation. You will turn that in to me the day you present. Details will be provided at a later date.

Grading Procedures

COURSE AVERAGES:

Attendance/Participation	30%
Class Activities	40%
Final Project and Presentation	30%
Total	100%

Letter Grade	Course Average
A	90% or better
B	80% to 89%
C	70% to 79%
CR	70% or better
NC	69% or less

FALL 2026 IMPORTANT DATES AND SEMESTER DEADLINES:

- Deadlines will be different for first and second 8-week classes
- Deadlines are 11:59 p.m. MT unless otherwise notated
- All Dates are subject to change

Breaks and Holidays:

Labor Day: September 7
Fall Break: October 8–9
Thanksgiving Break: November 26 –29
Winter Break (University Closed): December 23 –January 1

	Deadline	**Fee**
First day of classes	August 17	
Last day for wait list	August 21	No fee
Last day to ADD sections/CHANGE credit hours and CHANGE grade mode in LoboWeb	August 28	No fee
Enrollment cancellation	August 28	
Last day to DROP without a grade of "W" and 100% refund via LoboWeb	September 4 at 5 PM	No fee
Last days to ADD sections/CHANGE credit hours and CHANGE grade mode with **Enrollment Authorization – During the Term form** *Found under Course Related Forms.*	August 31 -- September 4 at 5 PM	$10
Last day to DROP via LoboWeb	November 6	No fee
Registration Opens for Late Starting Courses via LoboWeb	November 2	
Last day to ADD sections/CHANGE credit hours and CHANGE grade mode with **Enrollment Authorization – During the Term form** *Found under Course Related Forms.*	December 4 at 5 PM	$75
Last day to drop with the Student Drop Course *Found under Course Related Forms.*	December 4 at 5 PM	
Last day to report removal of incomplete	December 17 at 5 PM	No fee

SUPPORT: If you are struggling with 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 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 with.
- Office Hours: See my Instructor led study sessions listed at the beginning of this syllabus. Feel free to come by or make an appointment to get help.
- Form study groups: You may work together with other members of our class.
- 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
- Work will be graded and returned with feedback within one week of submission. You are encouraged to do corrections and resubmit any written homework or project assignments to improve your grade up to two weeks after the due date.

UNM 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 the opportunity to participate. To engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting reasonable accommodations for this class and/or program, please contact the UNM-Valencia Equal Access Services (Sarah Clawson, Coordinator), at (505) 925-8840 or by email at sjclawson@unm.edu.

UNM is committed to providing courses that are inclusive and accessible for all participants. As your instructor, it is my objective to facilitate an accessible classroom setting, in which students have full access and opportunity.

If you are experiencing physical or academic barriers, or concerns related to mental health, physical health, please consult with me after class, via email or during office hours. You are also encouraged to contact Accessibility Resource Center at arcsrvs@unm.edu or by phone 277-3506.

If you are a Valencia campus student, contact Equal Access Services at Valencia Campus at (505)925-8560 or Valencia Student Services. If you are a main campus student, you can receive documentation from the main campus Accessibility Resource Center. I will not guarantee accommodation without the appropriate documentation.

UAP 2720 and 2740. Our classroom and university should foster mutual respect, kindness, and support. If you have concerns about discrimination, harassment, or violence, please seek support and report incidents. Find confidential services at LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center, the Women's Resource Center, and the Arcoiris Center. UNM prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex (including

gender, sex stereotyping, gender expression, and gender identity). All instructors are "responsible employees" who must communicate reports of sexual harassment, sexual misconduct and sexual violence to Compliance, Ethics and Equal Opportunity. For more information, please see UAP 2720 and UAP 2740.

Responsible Learning and Academic Honesty: Cheating and plagiarism (academic dishonesty) are often driven by lack of time, desperation, or lack of knowledge about how to identify a source. Communicate with me and ask for help, even at the last minute, rather than risking your academic career by committing academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty involves claiming that work created by another source is your own original work. It is a Student Code of Conduct violation that can lead to a disciplinary procedure. When you use a resource in work submitted for this class, document how you used it and distinguish clearly between your original work and the material taken from the resource.

Respectful Conduct Expectations: I am committed to building with you a positive classroom environment in which everyone can learn. I reserve the right to intervene and enforce standards of respectful behavior when classroom conduct is inconsistent with university expectations. Interventions and enforcement may include but are not limited to required meetings to discuss classroom expectations, written notification of expectations, and/or removal from a class meeting. Removal from a class meeting will result in an unexcused absence. 3 or more unexcused absences may result in permanent removal and a drop from the course (see attendance policy). The University of New Mexico ensures freedom of academic inquiry, free expression and open debate, and a respectful campus through adherence to the following policies: D75: Classroom Conduct, Student Code of Conduct, University Policy 2240 – Respectful Campus, University Policy 2210 – Campus Violence.

Thriving and finding support: Students are especially successful at UNM when they take advantage of support and get involved in campus and academic life. The Student Life tab on the student and instructor MyUNM login page provides direct links to well-being resources, including financial capability, mental health, food, jobs, and resource centers. The Student Life tab on MyUNM will help you identify academic resources like peer tutoring and opportunities like study abroad. You can contact academic advisors and resource advisors for information and guidance via Student Hub on MyUNM. I look forward to providing you with information about academic opportunities related to our class and to helping you find support resources.

Title IX Reporting Obligations: Our classroom and our university should always be spaces of mutual respect, kindness, and support, without fear of discrimination, harassment, or violence. Should you ever need assistance or have concerns about incidents that violate this principle, please access the resources available to you on campus, especially the LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center and the support services listed on its website (http://loborespect.unm.edu/). Please note that, because UNM faculty,

TAs, and GAs are considered "responsible employees" by the Department of Education, any disclosure of gender discrimination (including sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, and sexual violence) made to a faculty member, TA, or GA must be reported by that faculty member, TA, or GA to the university's Title IX coordinator at the Office of Compliance, Ethics, and Equal Opportunity. For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, please see: https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html.

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 community statewide. We honor the land itself and those who remain broader stewards of this land throughout the generations and acknowledge our committed relationship to Indigenous peoples. We gratefully recognize our history.