

University of New Mexico – Valencia Campus
Math 193-502: Critical Thinking for Mathematics
Fall 2014 Syllabus

Instructor: Emily Miller

E-mail: efryer@unm.edu

Time: Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:30 am to 12:10 pm

Place: C108

Website: www.unm.edu/~efryer

Office Hours: See website (www.unm.edu/~efryer)

Course Overview: Math 193: Critical Thinking for Mathematics (CTM from now on) is a college level course focusing on the skills necessary to be a successful college student in mathematics classes at all levels. This means two things: 1) This is a college level course so you will be getting college credit for it. 2) We will be learning how to study math, how to learn math, how to think about math, how to succeed in math, etc.

Math 100 and Math 193: Math 100 and Math 193: Critical Thinking in Mathematics are co-requisites. That means that you must take the two classes together. If you are dropped from one class, you are dropped from the other class.

Materials: A three ring binder (at least 2” to 3”), this should be the same one you are using for Math 100, dividers, graph paper, writing instrument, note cards, note card holder, a folder with the three tines in it, and markers or colored pencils.

Students Learning Outcomes: At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to

- Develop academic skills as a foundation for college learning
- Employ critical thinking skills relating to mathematics
- Utilize multiple problem-solving strategies and methods
- Develop a mathematical awareness of the world
- Expand their confidence in mathematical ability

Grading Policy:

A+:	98%- and higher
A:	93%-98%
A-:	90%-93%
B+:	88%-90%
B:	83%-88%
B-:	80%-83%
CR:	72%-80%
NC:	Less than 72%

Grades will be based on the following:

Reading and Writing with Mathematics Comprehension	10%
Active Studying	25%
Organization and Note Taking	10%
Portfolio	50%
Attendance	5%

Attendance grades will be based on the following scale:

0 points—100 points

½ points—95 points

1 points—90 points

1 ½ points—85 points

2 points—80 points

2 ½ points—70 points

***NOTES:** 1) All portfolios are due on December 4th, 2014 by 5:45 pm. Portfolios will not be accepted late for any reason. Students who do not turn in a portfolio will not pass the class. 2) You must score a 70% or better on the portfolio to pass the class. 3) No assignments will be accepted after December 4th, 2014 by 5:45 pm for any reason.*

Attendance Policy: It is a well studied fact that the more absences a student has, the less likely they are to be successful in Math. The following attendance policy is designed to take into account the unique circumstances of every student while setting a standard that will give every student the most chances to be successful. When in doubt, talk to Emily. She can't help you if she doesn't know about the problem.

There are different types of absences that are worth different absence points. If you are just plain absent, it is 1 point. If you are late to class (arrive after class starts) or leave early (leave class without finishing all of the in-class work/assignments) you have 0.25 points. If you get in touch with Emily before an absence and complete all of the work for that day by the agreed upon date with a 90% or better you will get 0.1 points.

The goal of the “attendance game” is to have the smallest number of absence points (like absence golf). If you are a student taking the class for a grade and:

- You get 1 point in the first two weeks of class you may be dropped.
- You get above 3.5 points any time during the semester, you may be dropped.
- You are dropped from Math 100 you will be dropped from CTM 193 as well. These are co-requisites and must be completed together. If you are dropped from CTM 193 you will be dropped from Math 100 as well.
- Any student with 2 absence points and a grade below 72% in the course may be required to create a success contract with Emily or be dropped.

There will be no exceptions to this policy unless the student has a success contract.

Special Requirements for the First Two Weeks of Class:

Along with the requirement that a student may not have 1 absence point or more during the first two weeks of class, students must also complete the Scavenger Hunt assignment by the end of the second week of class. If these assignments are not completed (and the student has not contacted Emily *prior* to their due dates to make alternate arrangements) the student may be dropped regardless of attendance.

Review and Test Anxiety activities: In both Math 100 and CTM 193, reviewing for the final and dealing with test anxiety are two main goals. Unfortunately, not all students will be at the same place at any one time. This makes review of any kind difficult. So, we will have activities that address both review and test anxiety. For the most part, students will receive credit for these assignments for simply

trying them and participating (grades usually will not be based on how many questions the student get right, but how many they try). Students should use these assignments as a gauge for progress. Review and test anxiety assignments will focus only on the objectives covered on the final and not any pre-requisite material, so they are a good place to see how much of the material on the final you know.

Late assignments: Most assignments may be turned in late. Test anxiety quiz redoes can be turned in late for one math dollar each. Most other assignments may be turned in late for five math dollars each.

Classroom Environment: The classroom environment is expected to be one in which everyone has an opportunity to learn. It is an environment that will foster mutual respect among all students and the instructor. It is expected that students will participate, and the instructor will provide a safe, comfortable atmosphere conducive to participation. It is important that students contribute to this atmosphere by respecting their peers and not disrupting the class with the use of cell phones or unruly behavior. If you have any questions about this, please discuss it with the instructor. Cell phones are not permitted during class. Students deemed to be causing a distraction (including texting, ringing or vibrating cell phones, or other distractions) will be asked to leave and counted as absent.

Students with disabilities: If you have a documented disability, please provide Emily with a copy of your letter form Equal Access Services as soon as possible to ensure that your accommodations are provided for in a timely manner.

UNM's Policy on Dishonesty in Academic Matters: 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, including dismissal, against any student who is found responsible for academic dishonesty. Any student who has been 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 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; and misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or outside the University.

See Also: <http://pathfinder.unm.edu/policies.htm#academicdishonesty>
<http://www.unm.edu/~unmreg/Catalogs/2009-10Catalog.pdf> pages 44 and 52

Accessing Assignments and Important Information: Assignments, due dates and other useful information will be posted on our class's website (www.unm.edu/~efryer). The Highway To Success website will also have useful information (highwaytosuccess.unm.edu).