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Guiding Excellence in Education:  
A Framework for Teaching and Learning Success at UNM

DRAFTED BY UNM FACULTY SENATE TEACHING ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

# Faculty and Students Need Clear Teaching & Learning Guidelines

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- Faculty on the Teaching Enhancement Committee (TEC) expressed a strong need for shared best practices in:
  - Course design
  - Professional development
  - Award and peer review processes
- Students seek clear, consistent guidance on what success at UNM looks like—academically and professionally.
- This effort emerges from a shared desire to align teaching excellence with student success outcomes across UNM.

# A Framework for Teaching & Learning Success at UNM

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- A living document centered on shared values and actionable teaching principles
- Draws from evidence-based, research-informed models while honoring UNM's unique culture
- Supports both
  - Faculty needs: growth, evaluation, effective design
  - Student needs: transparency, preparedness, belonging



# A FRAMEWORK FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING SUCCESS AT UNM

**EDUCATORS**

**LEARNERS**

## ACTIVE AND CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE LEARNING

Foster active engagement through discussions, collaborative work, and hands-on activities.

Incorporate strategies that address diverse cultural, social, and learning backgrounds.

Use culturally relevant materials to encourage participation.

Participate in discussions, group work, and hands-on activities.

Respect and value the diverse cultural, social, and learning backgrounds of peers.

Bring unique perspectives to discussions and collaborate meaningfully with others.

## OPEN COMMUNICATION AND ASSESSMENT

Clearly outline course objectives, expectations, and grading criteria, ensuring alignment with learning outcomes.

Use authentic and diverse assessment methods to give learners multiple modes in which to succeed.

Provide timely, constructive feedback that supports learner growth.

Understand course objectives, expectations, and grading criteria, and align your work with the outlined outcomes.

Use feedback to improve your understanding and refine your learning strategies.

Communicate honestly and regularly with educators about your needs or concerns to foster a supportive learning experience.

## CULTURE OF GROWTH

Establish clear expectations and provide learners with the resources and guidance to achieve excellence and lifelong learning.

Normalize challenges and setbacks by fostering reflection and next steps.

Advocate for institutional support and engage in professional development to enhance educator effectiveness and learner success.

Actively seek guidance and support services to navigate challenges and excel.

View setbacks as opportunities for growth and learning.

Engage in tutoring, mentoring, and experiential learning to strengthen skills, deepen understanding, and expand academic and professional potential.

## BUILD COMMUNITY

Promote trust, belonging, collaboration, and mutual respect in the classroom and broader community.

Strengthen educator-learner and peer relationships through dialogue and teamwork.

Encourage shared learning through collaborative activities.

Build trust and respect with peers, and educators, and the broader community.

Develop relationships through mentorship, study groups, and teamwork.

Participate fully in community-building activities.

## RESEARCH-CENTERED LEARNING

Provide opportunities to participate in and implement research-centered learning.

Design projects tied to learners' academic and career goals.

Encourage inquiry-based learning to promote critical thinking.

Seek opportunities to connect concepts to real-world applications.

Approach assignments as ways to explore your interests and career goals.

Engage in experiential learning opportunities to deepen skills.

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

Create equitable opportunities to ensure access and success for all learners.

Integrate diverse perspectives into course materials and classroom discussions.

Foster equity and accessibility by identifying and mitigating implicit biases.

Recognize and challenge implicit biases in yourself and others.

Engage with diverse perspectives to enhance learning.

Support equitable practices and help peers create an inclusive space for all.

## REFLECTION

Adjust strategies in response to feedback and classroom experiences.

Encourage reflection with assignments tied to personal goals.

Be responsive to learners' evolving needs.

Reflect on feedback and progress to identify areas for growth.

Be open to new strategies and adjust approaches as needed.

Connect coursework to personal, academic, and career goals.

**Anonymous Survey Link:**

[https://unm.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8uDN2Mq3eyFM3n8](https://unm.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8uDN2Mq3eyFM3n8)

**QR Code**



Scan this QR Code to preview your survey on your own device.

# Collaborative, Faculty-Led Development Process

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Drafted by the Faculty Senate Teaching Enhancement Committee and tailored through:

- Iterative revisions
- Input from faculty, students, and support staff (PLFs, tutors, GPSA, etc.)

## **Next Steps:**

- Gather broader feedback through a campus-wide survey
- Host workshops at the Spring Teaching Conference
  - Wed., April 9, 2:30–3:30 PM
  - Thurs., April 10<sup>th</sup> 3:30-4:30 PM (Zoom)
- Present a finalized draft of the framework at the April Faculty Senate meetings

# Support Teaching Excellence University-Wide

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We request Faculty Senate endorsement of this initiative

- Please help us:
  - Share the framework and survey via All-Fac and departmental listservs
  - Encourage unit-level discussions to contextualize and apply these principles
- With your support, we will present a finalized, community-informed framework
  - April 22nd FS-Operations Committee meeting
  - April 29th Faculty Senate Meeting

Thank You!

