



Faculty Guide for Course Integration

What is Research & Discovery Week?

Research & Discovery Week (R&D Week) is a university-wide celebration of research, scholarship, creative activity, innovation, and community-engaged work at UNM. Through presentations, posters, performances, exhibitions, workshops, lectures, and other events, R&D Week highlights the diverse ways faculty, students, staff, and community partners contribute to discovery and knowledge creation. R&D Week 2026 will take place predominately in the UNM Student Union Building **November 3–6, 2026**.

Why Incorporate R&D Week into Your Course?

R&D Week can help students:

- Connect classroom concepts to real-world scholarship, creative activity, and discovery.
- Explore academic and career pathways.
- Learn how knowledge is created, applied, and communicated across disciplines.
- Engage with faculty, student researchers, artists, and innovators beyond their coursework.
- Become active participants in UNM's research and creative community.
- Replacing a class session with R&D Week attendance will allow you to attend or present yourself.

Faculty may choose to incorporate R&D Week through required attendance, participation in activities, reflections, discussions, presentations, or extra-credit opportunities.

Course Integration Ideas

Research & Discovery Reflection: Students attend an approved R&D Week event and submit a short reflection, discussion post, or course-related assignment addressing what they learned, how the event relates to the course, and questions or ideas that emerged from the experience.

Research Scavenger Hunt: Students attend one or more events and identify examples of interdisciplinary collaboration, innovative methods, community impact, or make connections to topics discussed in class.

Class Discussion or Debrief: Students attend one or more events and share key takeaways during a class discussion, small-group activity, or brief presentation.

Professional Exploration Activity: Students attend an event related to their academic interests and reflect on any ideas that were new to them or potential research opportunities, graduate education pathways, careers, or community engagement.

Student Presentation Opportunity: Faculty may encourage students to submit proposals to present research, scholarship, creative activity, course projects, design work, community-engaged projects, or other academic work during R&D Week. Proposal submission, presentation acceptance, or completion of a presentation may be recognized as a course activity or extra-credit opportunity. A call for presentations can be found [HERE](#). Note that there is a selection process, and not all submitted proposals will be accepted. Proposals are due August 31.

Sample Syllabus Statement

Students are encouraged to participate in UNM Research & Discovery Week, a university-wide celebration of research, scholarship, creative activity, innovation, and community-engaged learning. Research & Discovery Week provides opportunities to explore academic disciplines, engage with faculty and student presenters, connect classroom learning to real-world discovery, and learn about research and creative activities taking place across UNM. Participation may be incorporated into course assignments, discussions, presentations, reflections, attendance, or extra-credit activities at the instructor's discretion.

Email frdo@unm.edu with questions and visit the [R&D Week website](#) for a forthcoming agenda and updates.