

Implementation Strategies

Byng High School, Byng Public Schools
Ada, OK

Grade(s): 10 – 11
Scenario: Computer Lab
Purpose: Supplement, Core Curriculum
ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 100%
Time Spent in ALEKS: 3.75 hours per week; 67.5 hours per term
ALEKS Course: Algebra 2

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ALEKS gives us a means to help our seniors who haven't achieved a score of 19 on the math portion of the ACT, although a majority of our enrolled students do achieve the 19 score before completing their senior year. ALEKS also helps us prepare our seniors for college-level mathematics studies.

Scenario

What challenges did the class or school face in math prior to using ALEKS?

Low ACT scores and avoiding upper-level math courses.

How many days per week is class time dedicated to ALEKS?

5 days per week.

What is the average length of a class period when ALEKS is used?

45 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

We use ALEKS through a program at East Central University developed to help high schools with college preparation.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

I just let the students work at their own pace.

How did you modify your regular teaching approach as a result of ALEKS?

ALEKS is only for seniors while other classes are taught by ordinary teacher-led instruction.

How often are students required or encouraged to work on ALEKS at home?

Whenever they miss their class time if they are absent or on school trips.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

Senior parents meet during the first week of school in the fall and we describe ALEKS and encourage enrollment.

Grading

Is ALEKS assigned to your students as all or part of their homework responsibilities? If so, what part of the total homework load is it?

No.

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

Mastering objectives is 50 percent of the grade, and time spent working on ALEKS is 50 percent of the grade.

Do you require students to make regular amounts of progress in ALEKS?

Yes, students receive a grade based upon mastering objectives, and a grade for an amount of time spent on ALEKS per week.

Learning Outcomes

Since using ALEKS, please describe the learning outcomes or progress you have seen.

Our excellent math students thrive in the ALEKS program because it helps them learn those topics that they have already learned to a much deeper level. Our less capable math students, while being challenged daily, appreciate the fact that ALEKS won't let them forget anything because it keeps brining the topics up on assessments. Students like the early mastery of objectives at a rapid pace, and learn to accept the loss of objectives due to assessments because they realize that they will understand the material better with repetition.