

Implementation Strategies

Deerfield Community School District Education and Preparation Program, Deerfield Community School District
Deerfield, WI

Grade(s): 11 – 12

Scenario: Computers in Classroom

Purpose: Exit Exam

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 20%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 5–6 hours per week, 20 hours per term

ALEKS Course: Pre–Algebra

Melissa Hill, Teacher

I love this program! ALEKS delivers exactly the results I want for my students, and they actually enjoy using it.

Scenario

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

Like many educators, my students arrive with a range of needs and varying abilities that can often be difficult to meet.

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

4–5 days per week.

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

45 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

I implemented ALEKS into the classroom very slowly by trying it with a couple of students to see if it would accommodate our needs.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

My students work independently with ALEKS for the majority of their class period.

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

As I do not actually teach a math class, I did not have to alter my style at all. We are an alternative school, so many of my students work on several different subjects simultaneously.

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

My students are not required to complete any work at home, but I do have a couple of students that practice at home because they enjoy ALEKS so much.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

As my students are older, parental involvement is not a priority or emphasis.

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?

My students' participation in ALEKS is primarily to prepare them to take and pass their General Educational Development (GED) test. I do not grade any of their work or progress.

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

No.

Learning Outcomes

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

All of my students have clearly increased their knowledge of math concepts significantly and have gone on to accomplish our class goal and pass the GED math test. They are very positive and expressive about their experiences with the program. ALEKS suits our program perfectly, especially since it evaluates the kids and provides so many different options.