

Implementation Strategies

Anson High School, Anson Independent School District
Anson, TX

Grade(s): 9 – 12
Scenario: Computer Lab
Purpose: Exit Exam, Core Curriculum
ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 99%
Time Spent in ALEKS: 3.75 hours per week, 360 hours per term

Amber Smith, Teacher
Many students are making progress.

Scenario

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

Many! My class is made up of students who have previously failed the math and/or science Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) test.

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?

Students work independently with teacher support as needed to answer questions.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

Students come in, log in, and work throughout the period.

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

Because of our use of ALEKS, I no longer lecture at all.

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

I encourage the students to work at home daily.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

We notified the parents of the program during our open house.

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?

The TAKS grade is 100 percent.

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

A "C" average is based on 5 percent progress per week; A "B" grade is based on 6 percent; and an "A" grade is the result of 7

percent progress.

Learning Outcomes

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

One student who was challenged by the TAKS High School Exit Exam said, "Thank you for making me do ALEKS. It really helped."

Best Practices

Are there any best practices you would like to share with other teachers implementing ALEKS?

One tip I can offer is to have students take notes in a notebook to review concepts later.