

Implementation Strategies

North Eugene High School, Eugene School District 4J
Eugene, OR

Grade(s): 9 – 12

Scenario: Laptop Carts

Purpose: Intervention, After-School, At-Risk Students, Supplement

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 95%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 1.25 hours per week; 11–12 hours per term

ALEKS Course: Algebra Readiness

Ruth Langstraat, Teacher

Students who have enthusiastically and regularly used ALEKS have made great progress. They are learning material and mastering skill sets they didn't previously have. A few students are also very excited about the opportunity to improve their skills and appreciate the program.

Scenario

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

2 days per week.

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

40 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

We implemented ALEKS as a new class where the program is the focus.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

I am encouraging students to focus on completing certain slices of their pie first, such as the Whole Numbers and Integers slice, and then progressing to the Rational Numbers slice.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

Students log on when they arrive to class and then write a short journal about what they covered in ALEKS at the end of class.

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

I've taken a much more hands-off approach by being more of a coach and guide instead of just a teacher.

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

Every day I encourage students to log on at home or even at school during study hall.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

I have called parents to tell them about ALEKS and explain what the program is, why we are using it, and then give them a chance to ask questions.

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?

ALEKS is assigned to students to make up missed classes.

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

My grade breakdown is: 50 percent based on hours logged, 20 percent is based on topics mastered, and 30 percent is based on progress towards each individual student's goal.

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

Student progress is measured based on topics completed and a subjective assessment of progression towards his or her goal.

Learning Outcomes

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

Students who are committed to the program and have a high level of buy-in are learning material and mastering skill sets they didn't previously have. A few students are also very excited about the opportunity to improve their skills and appreciate the program.