

Implementation Strategies

San Joaquin Memorial High School, Private
Fresno, CA

Grade(s): 9 – 12

Scenario: Computer Lab, Home Access

Purpose: College and Career Readiness, Core Curriculum, Supplement

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 20%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 2–4 hours per week; 36–72 hours per term

ALEKS Course: Algebra 1

Ryan Dull, Teacher

ALEKS is a great program that allows me to effectively assess the level of knowledge and understanding of my students. I really feel that my students benefit from seeing instantaneous results. My students are able to utilize what they have learned on ALEKS in the classroom during lessons and activities.

Scenario

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

This class lacked curriculum and focus for the students who needed a third year of math.

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

2–3 days per week.

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

45–50 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

I use ALEKS as a supplemental tool, as well as a key curriculum.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

I give a warm-up that revolves around a certain topic and then teach a short lesson to expand upon that topic. Then students work on problems from that topic in ALEKS.

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

I have made modifications to how much time I devote to lessons.

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

Students use ALEKS at home 2–3 times per week.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

I let parents know what we are doing with ALEKS.

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 a part of students' homework.

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

In my class, homework is 25 percent, tests are 40 percent, quizzes are 10 percent, projects are 5 percent, and ALEKS is 20 percent

of a student's grade.

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

Students must complete half of the course in 18 weeks. Thus, each week they must complete three topics per week to meet this goal.

Learning Outcomes

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

My students are able to utilize what they have learned on ALEKS in the classroom during lessons and activities. Students also feel that they have achieved a great deal after seeing their progress charted out for them.