

Implementation Strategies

Byng High School, Byng Public Schools
Ada, OK

Grade(s): 10 – 12
Scenario: Computer Lab
Purpose: Intervention
Time Spent in ALEKS: 4+ hours per week, 36 hours per term
ALEKS Course: Algebra 2, Trigonometry, PreCalculus

Kim Crawford, Teacher

My experience with ALEKS has been great! The students do well working at their own pace, and enjoy the freedom of working on the concepts of their choice.

Scenario

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

The school did not have a remediation program for seniors who struggled in various math classes.

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?

50 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

We introduced ALEKS as a remediation program for our seniors struggling with math.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

The students work individually and receive help from me when needed.

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

This class was designed specifically for ALEKS.

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

They are not required to work at home, but often do to make up for absences.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

The parents simply help make sure that the students have access to the Internet if they are absent from school.

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?

100 percent.

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

Our grading schedule is made up of the following components: benchmark tests are 80 percent; daily participation is 18 percent; and attendance is 2 percent.

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

Students do have benchmarks they must meet every four weeks. These benchmarks are individually assigned depending on their entering skill level. Basically, each student has an individual education plan.

Learning Outcomes

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

ALEKS has helped my students to better retain information, especially since they are seniors and do not have a math class outside of our ALEKS course.

Best Practices

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

I think that an individualized education plan for each student works the best. Simply requiring a set time and set objectives per week does not give each student a challenge and keep them progressing through the course.