



Adding the ALEKS Tool Link to Brightspace/D2L

This document will guide Instructors to add the ALEKS LTI 1.3 tool as an Activity in Brightspace.

Adding the ALEKS Tool Link to Brightspace

Adding the ALEKS Tool as an Activity

1. Go to a D2L class, select **Content** and select **+New Unit**.

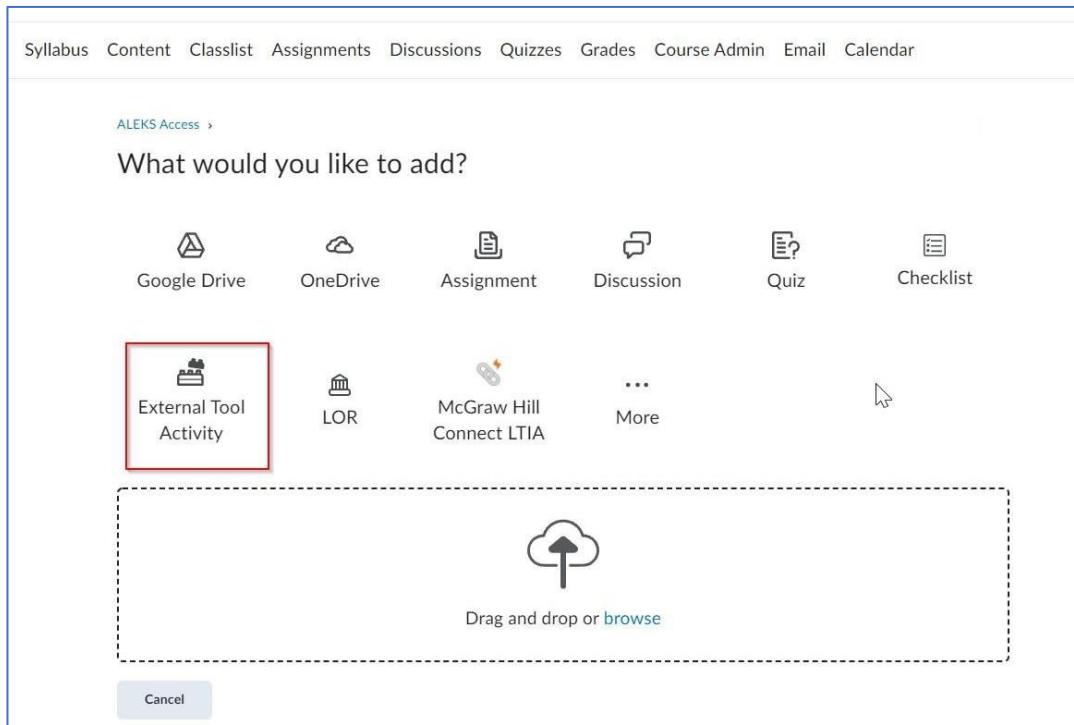
The screenshot shows the Brightspace Content page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Syllabus, Content, Classlist, Assignments, Discussions, Quizzes, Grades, Course Admin, Email, Calendar, and More. Below the navigation bar, there is a large button labeled '+ New Unit' and a gear icon. To the right of these, there is a decorative icon of a pencil, a bucket, and some blocks. Below the icon, the text 'Welcome!' is displayed. At the bottom of the page, there is a message: 'Build a solid foundation for learners. Add your favorite materials, assessments and more.'

2. Once the new unit is added, select **Add Existing**.

The screenshot shows the Brightspace Content page after a new unit has been added. The 'ALEKS Access' unit is visible, and the 'Add Existing' button is highlighted with a blue box. The rest of the page is identical to the first screenshot, showing the navigation bar, '+ New Unit' button, and welcome message.



1. Select External Tool Activity

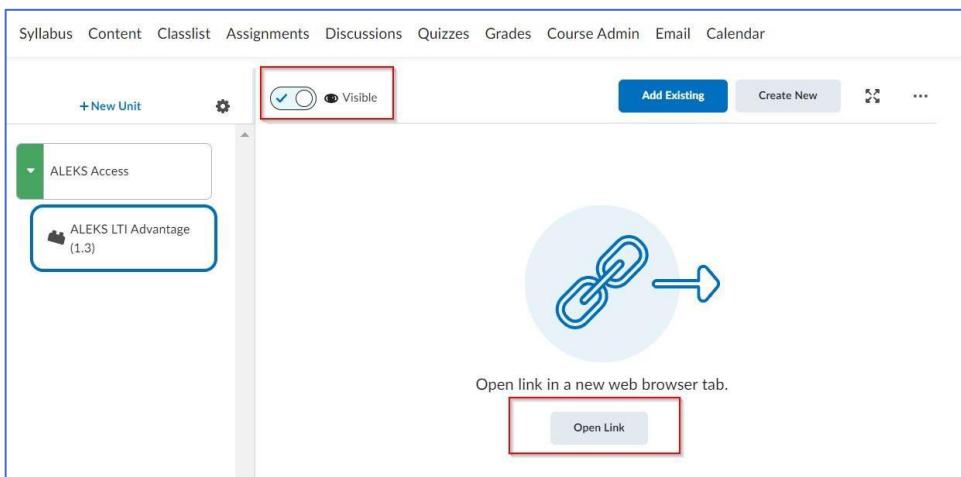


A screenshot of the ALEKS Access interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Syllabus, Content, Classlist, Assignments, Discussions, Quizzes, Grades, Course Admin, Email, and Calendar. Below this, a sub-menu titled 'ALEKS Access' is shown with a link 'What would you like to add?'. A grid of icons for various tools is displayed: Google Drive, OneDrive, Assignment, Discussion, Quiz, Checklist, External Tool Activity (which is highlighted with a red box), LOR, and McGraw Hill Connect LTI. Below the grid is a dashed box with a cloud icon and the text 'Drag and drop or browse'. At the bottom left is a 'Cancel' button.

2. Locate and select the ALEKS tool.

The naming of the tool may vary depending on how ALEKS was configured in Brightspace. It should have a name in the LTI Advantage Deployment column, indicating this is the LTI 1.3 tool.

3. Change the visibility of the tool to visible. Select Open Link to launch the tool.



A screenshot of the ALEKS Access tool list. The 'ALEKS Access' tool is selected and expanded, showing its sub-tools: 'ALEKS LT1 Advantage (1.3)' (which is highlighted with a blue box). Above the tool list, there is a 'Visible' toggle switch (which is highlighted with a red box) and buttons for 'Add Existing' and 'Create New'. Below the tool list, there is a large blue circular icon with a chain and arrow symbol, and the text 'Open link in a new web browser tab.' Below this text is a 'Open Link' button (which is highlighted with a red box).



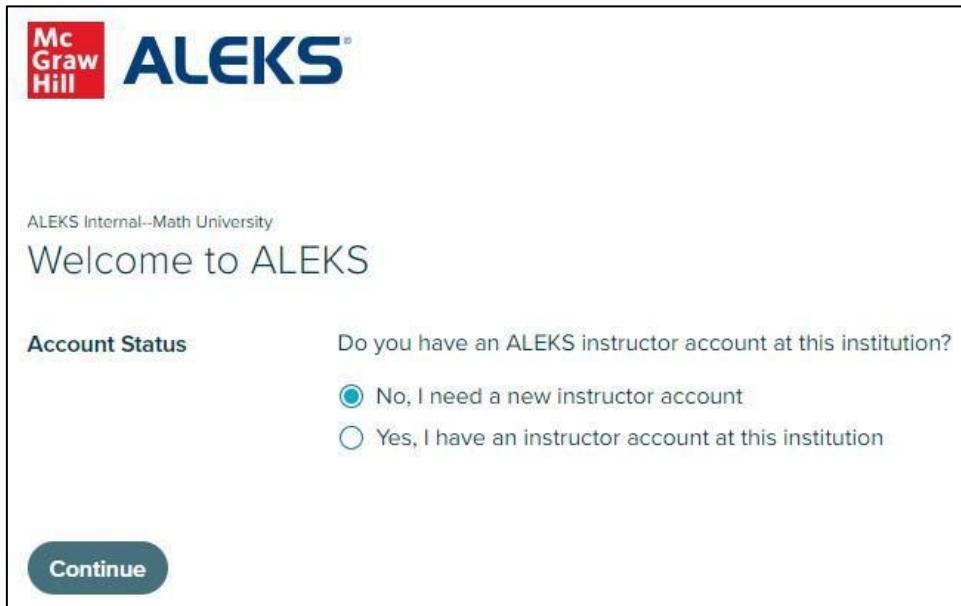
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ALEKS will launch in a new window/tab.

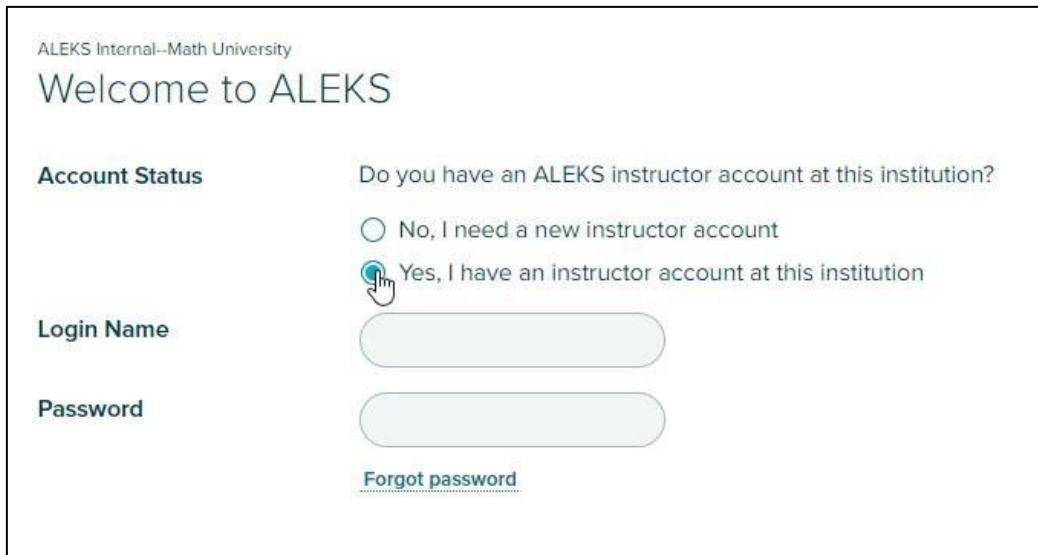
Pairing an ALEKS Account to Brightspace or Creating a New ALEKS Account

1. The first time you click through the ALEKS tool as an instructor you will be asked to pair your Brightspace account to your ALEKS account, if it exists, or to set up an instructor account in ALEKS.



A screenshot of the ALEKS account creation page. At the top left is the McGraw Hill ALEKS logo. Below it, the text "ALEKS Internal--Math University" and "Welcome to ALEKS". A "Account Status" section asks "Do you have an ALEKS instructor account at this institution?" with two radio button options: "No, I need a new instructor account" (selected) and "Yes, I have an instructor account at this institution". A "Continue" button is at the bottom left.

If you have an account already, make sure to select the second option to use your existing account.

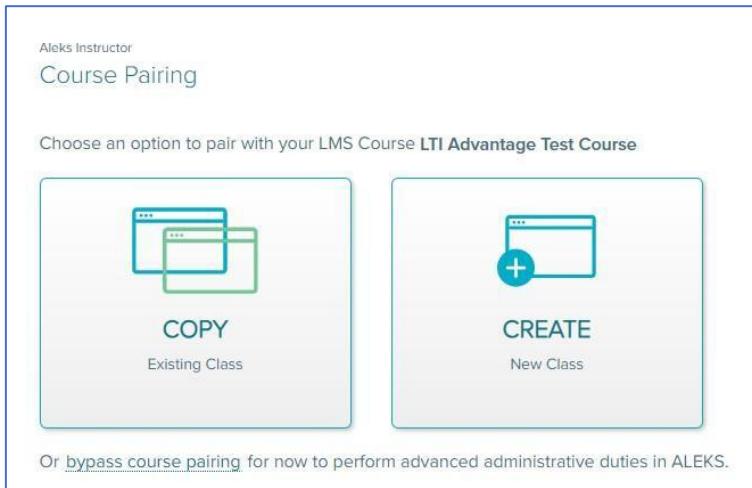


A screenshot of the ALEKS account creation page. At the top left is the McGraw Hill ALEKS logo. Below it, the text "ALEKS Internal--Math University" and "Welcome to ALEKS". A "Account Status" section asks "Do you have an ALEKS instructor account at this institution?" with two radio button options: "No, I need a new instructor account" and "Yes, I have an instructor account at this institution" (selected). Below this are "Login Name" and "Password" fields, both represented by large, empty, rounded rectangular input fields. A "Forgot password" link is at the bottom of the page.

Pairing Your Brightspace Course to an ALEKS Course If this is

your first time using ALEKS

1. If you just created your ALEKS account, you will be presented the option to make a new course and pair it immediately or you may create a copy of an existing course that is publicly visible and pair the copy.



You may also select the “bypass course pairing” link for now if you just want to head into ALEKS without setting up a course just yet. After bypassing the class creation and pairing step, ALEKS will still prompt you to pair your Brightspace course the next time you login over the activity link from Brightspace.

2. Selecting Create – New Class will take you into ALEKS’ class creation process where you will select your ALEKS course product, textbook (if using one) and set your Start and End dates for the term.

1 Class Information and Content 2 Class Options

Aleks Instructor - New Class

Class Information

Class Name: LTI Advantage Test Course

Section (optional):

Class Dates: Start — End
 Automatically archive this class after the end date

Class Content

Textbook: Select One

I will not be using a textbook

ALEKS Course Product: Select One

Cancel Next

3. Once you fill out all required fields and create your course, the ALEKS link from your Brightspace activity link will proceed to the class in ALEKS when clicked. Students will access ALEKS the exact same way, however, they see the ALEKS course from a student perspective.



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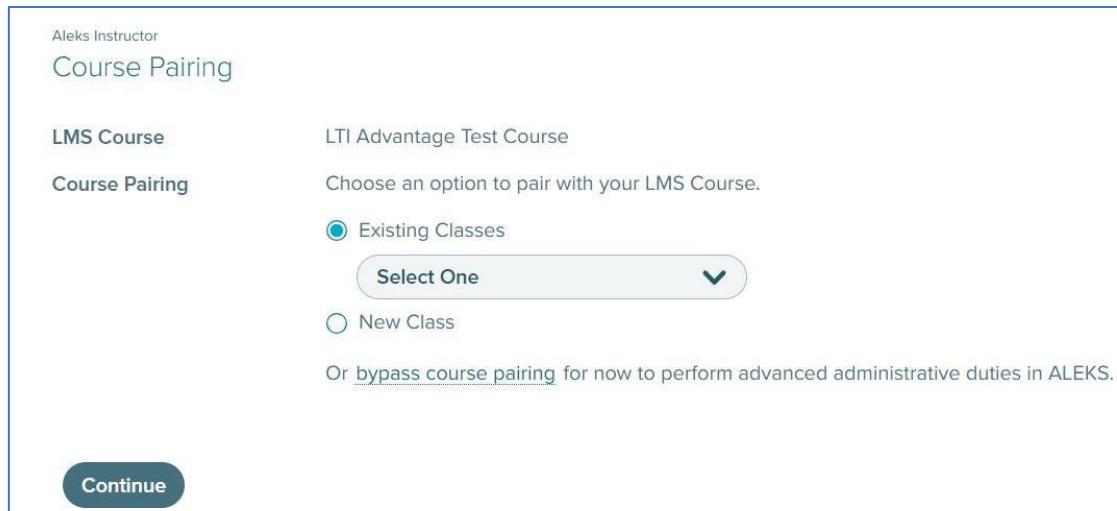
4. Selecting Copy – by Class Code will prompt you to submit the ALEKS Class Code of a publicly visible ALEKS course.



5. Once you enter the Class Code and select the intended Start and End dates for your term, your ALEKS course will be created and paired with the Brightspace course.

If you paired an existing ALEKS account

1. If you have a course already created in ALEKS, or one was copied to your account, you can select these from the Existing Classes drop-down menu.



2. Press Continue to complete the pairing.



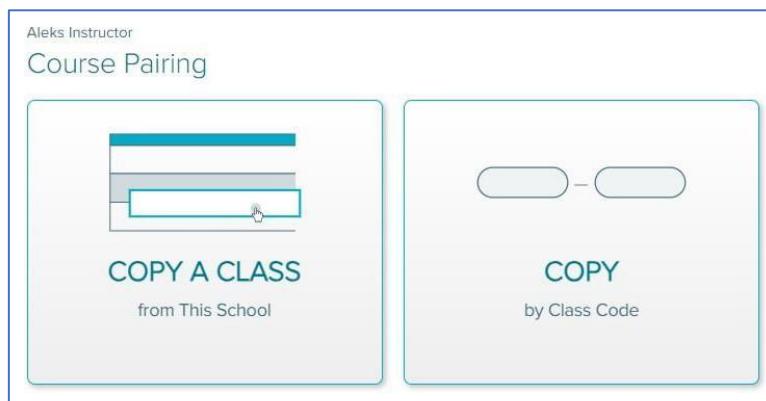
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3. Selecting New Class will present you with the option to copy an existing ALEKS course or to create an entirely new ALEKS course.



4. Selecting Copy – Existing Class will prompt you to select a course from a drop-down of ALEKS sections you have access to or submit the ALEKS Class Code of a publicly visible ALEKS course.



5. Creating a new class will require you to fill out the Start and End Dates, ALEKS Course Product and the textbook for your course.

1 Class Information and Content 2 Class Options

Aleks Instructor - New Class

Class Content

Class Information

Class Name: LTI Advantage Test Course

Section (optional):

Class Dates: Start - End
 Automatically archive this class after the end date

Textbook:

I will not be using a textbook

ALEKS Course Product:

Once you fill out the basic details of your course, it will be created and paired to your Brightspace course.

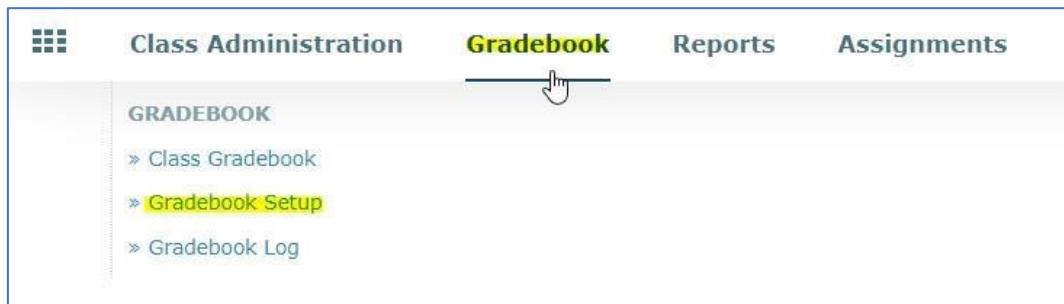


The ALEKS link from your Brightspace activity will return you to the ALEKS course when clicked without needing to submit your login credentials again. Students will access ALEKS the exact same way, however, they see the ALEKS course from a student perspective.

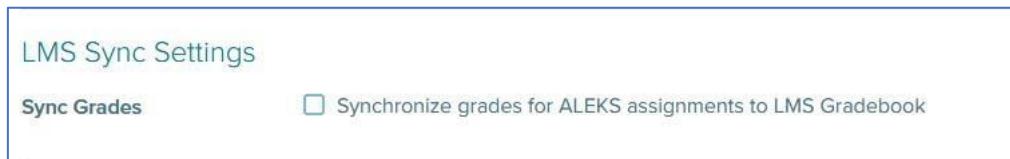
Now that your course is paired, it is recommended to confirm how you want the ALEKS gradebook to sync with Brightspace.

Enabling Gradebook Sync from ALEKS

1. From your paired ALEKS course, hover over Gradebook and select Gradebook Setup to begin configuring your gradebook and enable automatic grade sync.



2. From the Gradebook Setup page, first check the box to enable automatic gradebook sync.



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This will expand the list of settings associated with your gradebook sync. Changes to these settings will not update your class until you click the Save button at the bottom of the page.

LMS Sync Settings

Sync Grades Synchronize grades for ALEKS assignments to LMS Gradebook

Sync Time Synchronize on assignment due dates
 Synchronize on assignment submission ⓘ

Assignment Sync Synchronize assignment grades in the following categories. Assignments in categories with 0% weight will not synchronize.
Homework X Module X ⌄

Total Grade Sync Synchronize ALEKS Total Grade to LMS gradebook

Direct Links ⓘ Check [user guides](#) to learn about adding direct links for ALEKS assignments to LMS.

Under Assignment Sync, you can choose which categories to send back into Brightspace from the drop-down menu:

Assignment Sync Synchronize assignment grades in the following categories. Assignments in categories with 0% weight will not synchronize.
Module X Homework X

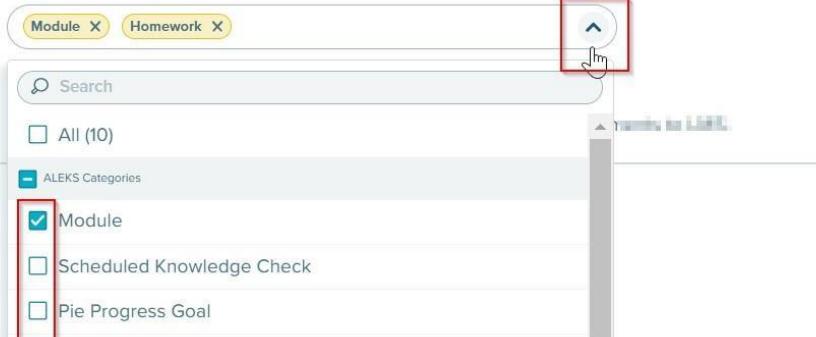
Total Grade Sync

Direct Links ⓘ

Gradebook Settings

Total Grade Sync

Category Sync



Check the boxes next to each category and they will be added to the Assignment Sync field. All assignments with a non-zero point value in each category will be included in the sync.

Further control of the sync behavior is now available through the Sync Time setting:

Sync Time Synchronize on assignment due dates
 Synchronize on assignment submission ⓘ

The option to Synchronize on assignment due dates will not pass over grades until the actual assignment due date passes in ALEKS. This is the original default behavior for grade sync.

With Synchronize on assignment submission selected, student actions like submitting an assignment or making progress on a module will trigger an update of the corresponding Brightspace assignment grades.

You may also opt to send over a column in your gradebook using the calculated ALEKS total grade:

Total Grade Sync  Synchronize ALEKS Total Grade to LMS gradebook

Column name in LMS gradebook for ALEKS total grade: **ALEKS Total Grade**

Column point value for ALEKS total grade: **100** points

This column can be customized with a different name and point value, which are both passed to Brightspace. Your gradebook weights in ALEKS only apply to this column.

3. Click Save at the bottom of the page to complete your gradebook setup. Assignment point values in ALEKS will sync over at this time to corresponding assignments in Brightspace.

