

INSTRUCTOR WIN STORY

Personalized and productive practice overcomes skill gaps.



Kelly Jackson, Liberal Arts Math and Statistics Instructor at Camden County College

THE TEACHING CHALLENGE

Students spending hours on homework and still not improving.

Many students enter their college math course with gaps in their prerequisite skills, whether they are in a co-requisite course or not. **How do you provide the right support to each student** so they are prepared to learn the skills needed to be successful in the course?

“My students and I were both very frustrated with the ‘helps’ in the MyLab Math homework system,” said Kelly Jackson, Liberal Arts Math Instructor at Camden County College. *“They were spending a lot of time doing work in the system and yet they still weren’t getting the help they needed to even get close to scoring 100 on their homework.”*

“I’m not a fan of busy work,” Jackson continued. *“If someone is telling me, ‘I spent two hours on that problem;’ I’m going to tell them, no problem in my classes is worth two hours of your life. I don’t want to see someone with 150 hours in the system. There had to be a better way to meet students where they were.”*

THE ACTION PLAN

Optimize homework time with personalized, constructive help.

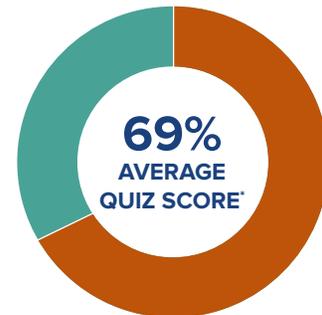
Jackson was teaching two courses in the Summer of 2021 and decided to teach one of those courses using ALEKS® — an adaptive online learning platform, for homework.

In one platform, ALEKS delivers the personalized practice each individual student requires along with end-of-section homework assignments from the McGraw Hill textbook.

BENCHMARK DATA

SUMMER 2021

LIBERAL ARTS MATH: MYLAB MATH



GROUP USING MYLAB MATH FOR HOMEWORK

*Across six common quizzes given in both the MyLab Math course and the ALEKS course.

3 KEY INSTRUCTOR GOALS

- 1 HELP STUDENTS IDENTIFY GAPS
- 2 IMPROVE HOMEWORK EFFICIENCY
- 3 INCREASE RETENTION AND ENGAGEMENT

THE RESULTS

Students performed better on quizzes/tests using ALEKS.

UNIT	MYLAB MATH FOR HW AVG QUIZ SCORE	ALEKS FOR HW AVG QUIZ SCORE	INCREASE
Counting	63	77	▲ 14
Probability	71	78	▲ 7
Descriptive Statistics	83	83	–
Voting Methods	77	81	▲ 4
Finance	60	79	▲ 19
Network/Graphs	69	70	▲ 1

- 7.2 Section Exercise 19 (table)
- 7.2 Section Exercise 19, 20 (calc)
- 7.2 Section Exercise 19, 20 (excel)
- 7.2 Section Exercise 21, 22 (table)
- 7.2 Section Exercise 21, 22 (calc)
- 7.2 Section Exercise 21, 22 (excel)

To align with what she teaches in Statistics class, Jackson can select calculator-based homework questions. Excel-based and table-based versions are also available.

WHY IT WORKS



ALIGNS WITH IN-CLASS WORK

“When selecting homework problems in ALEKS, I can choose versions that align with what I teach in class,” Jackson reported. “The helps are ‘helpful’ and students can achieve a high homework score after spending a reasonable number of hours in ALEKS.”



IDENTIFIES PROBLEM AREAS

“In ALEKS, students can identify what trips them up,” Jackson said. “They work a problem as far as they can go and they can identify the part where they get stuck. Students are more persistent in ALEKS, because they can keep making attempts, try and fail, until they improve and get to the point where they succeed on the problem.”



PROVIDES MORE HELP, MORE EFFICIENTLY

“I’m seeing more students make serious use of ALEKS,” Jackson continued, “but they’re doing it in general with an appropriate amount of time. I want them to be in a system where they can do somewhere between 20-50 hours’ worth of work over the course of a typical 15-week term. There’s efficiency in ALEKS, being able to actually get through it in a timely manner, because it’s actually helpful. They can get through it in a reasonable amount of time.”



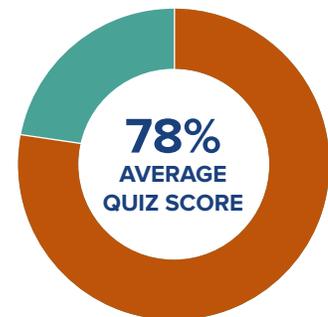
SEAMLESSLY HANDLES PREREQUISITES

“Students are underprepared, but have different needs.” Jackson selects the prerequisite topics she wants students to brush up on. “ALEKS provides a personalized review of each student’s math gaps and holes. They only review what they need — not every single prerequisite topic. It’s efficient.”

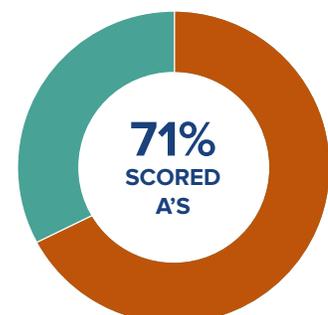
PROGRESS DATA

SUMMER 2021

LIBERAL ARTS MATH: ALEKS



OVERALL GRADE DISTRIBUTION: HOMEWORK



GROUP USING ALEKS FOR HOMEWORK

Ready to explore your
move to ALEKS?

CONTACT THE ALEKS TEAM TODAY

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ALEKS.COM