



Hello and Welcome!

This brief walkthrough is designed to help you become familiar with the ALEKS program and how it will be used in this class. It will also assist you with the registration process and direct you where to go for help.

Thank you,

[Anna Durakiewicz]
[UNM Los Alamos Campus]



ALEKS is an individualized, online learning and assessment tool for mathematics. It uses artificial intelligence to determine what you know, what you don't know, and more importantly, what you are **most ready to learn**.

Your work in ALEKS will make up **80%** of your overall grade in this class.

Over the course of the term, you will be required to work in ALEKS to:

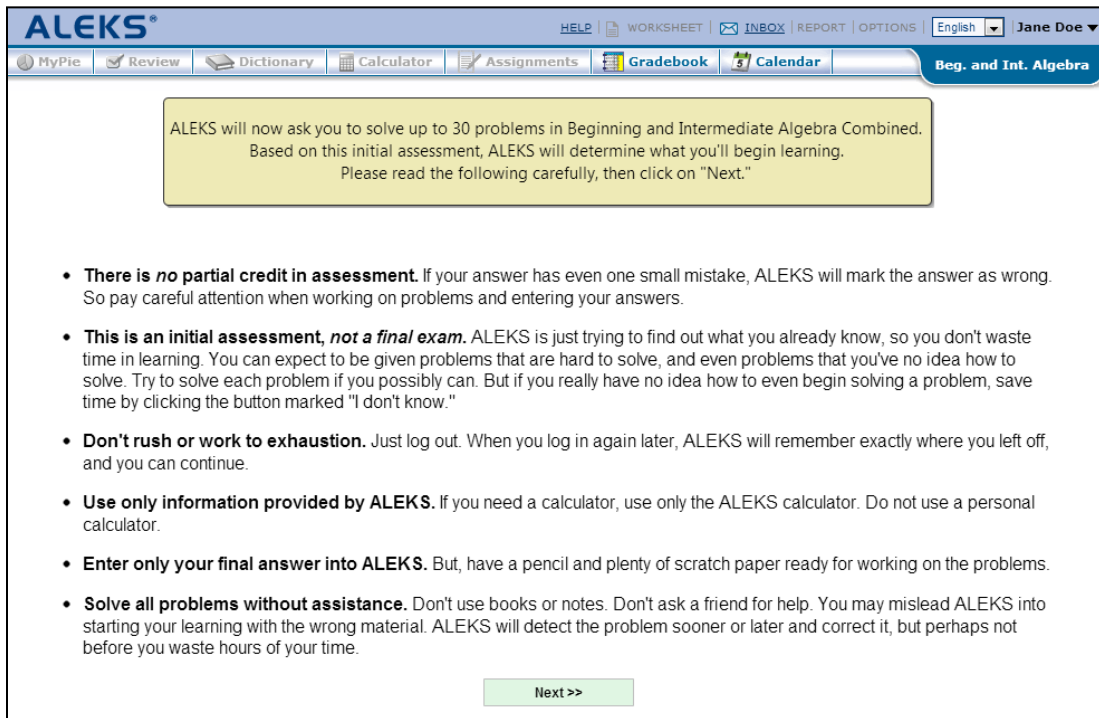
- Complete periodic *Progress Assessments*
- Master new concepts in *Learning Mode*
- Complete any additional ALEKS assignments



Once you register with ALEKS, you will take a brief tutorial on how to navigate the system and enter your answers.

Next, you will complete your Initial Assessment. The purpose of the Initial Assessment is to determine what you know and don't know, so that you can begin with the material that you are most ready to learn.

It is CRUCIAL that you complete ALEKS assessments honestly and to the best of your ability so that the system can accurately gauge your true knowledge of course material. If you don't, you will only be giving yourself more work!



The screenshot shows the ALEKS web interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the ALEKS logo and several utility links: HELP, WORKSHEET, INBOX, REPORT, and OPTIONS. A language dropdown menu is set to 'English' and the user name 'Jane Doe' is visible. Below the navigation bar is a secondary menu with icons for MyPie, Review, Dictionary, Calculator, Assignments, Gradebook, and Calendar. The current course is 'Beg. and Int. Algebra'. A yellow message box in the center reads: 'ALEKS will now ask you to solve up to 30 problems in Beginning and Intermediate Algebra Combined. Based on this initial assessment, ALEKS will determine what you'll begin learning. Please read the following carefully, then click on "Next."' Below the message box is a list of six instructions:

- **There is no partial credit in assessment.** If your answer has even one small mistake, ALEKS will mark the answer as wrong. So pay careful attention when working on problems and entering your answers.
- **This is an initial assessment, not a final exam.** ALEKS is just trying to find out what you already know, so you don't waste time in learning. You can expect to be given problems that are hard to solve, and even problems that you've no idea how to solve. Try to solve each problem if you possibly can. But if you really have no idea how to even begin solving a problem, save time by clicking the button marked "I don't know."
- **Don't rush or work to exhaustion.** Just log out. When you log in again later, ALEKS will remember exactly where you left off, and you can continue.
- **Use only information provided by ALEKS.** If you need a calculator, use only the ALEKS calculator. Do not use a personal calculator.
- **Enter only your final answer into ALEKS.** But, have a pencil and plenty of scratch paper ready for working on the problems.
- **Solve all problems without assistance.** Don't use books or notes. Don't ask a friend for help. You may mislead ALEKS into starting your learning with the wrong material. ALEKS will detect the problem sooner or later and correct it, but perhaps not before you waste hours of your time.

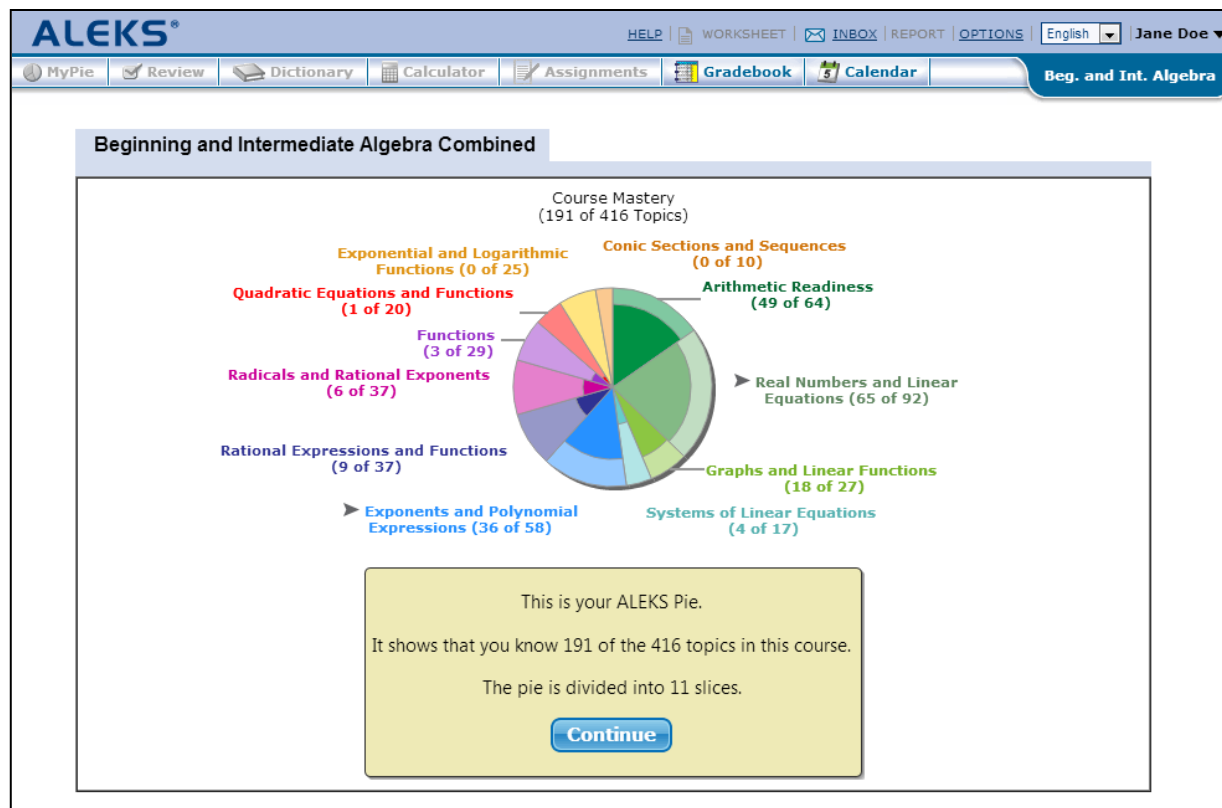
At the bottom of the instructions is a green button labeled 'Next >>'.



After you finish the Initial Assessment, you will see your ALEKS Pie Chart. The pie chart represents your current knowledge of the course material. Notice that ALEKS has assessed that you already know some of the material!

The dark portion of each slice shows what you already know, and the light portion of each slice represents what you have left to learn. The topics that you are **most ready to learn** are available in the pie slices.

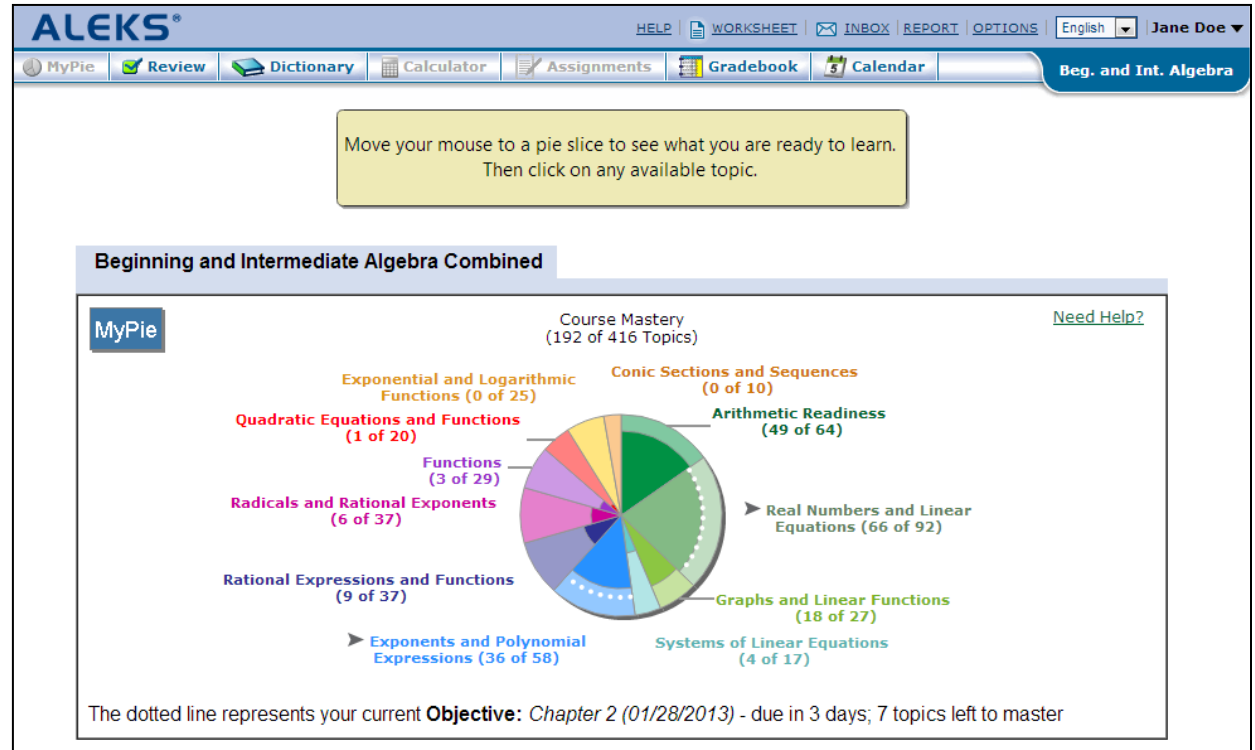
As you master new topics in the Learning Mode, the dark portion of the pie slices will grow. Your goal is to fill in your pie as completely as possible by the end of the term.



To stay on track in this class, you will be required to complete Intermediate Objectives throughout the term. Think of these Objectives as periodic goals for learning the material; the more you procrastinate, the more work you give yourself!

The white dotted line in each pie slice represents your current Objective. Fill in the pie slice up to the dotted line in order to complete the Objective.

The due date and the remaining topics left to master for the current Objective appear beneath the pie chart as a friendly reminder.



You will work in Learning Mode to master new topics. Hover your mouse over a pie slice and select a topic to learn. You will only see the topics that you are ready to learn. As you learn topics, the dark portion of the pie slices will grow and more topics will become available.

Any topics that you learn or already knew when you started the course are available by clicking on the **Review** tab.

If there are no topics available in a slice, you will need to work in other slices first.

The screenshot displays the ALEKS Learning Mode interface. At the top, the ALEKS logo is on the left, and navigation links (HELP, WORKSHEET, INBOX, REPORT, OPTIONS) and user information (English, Jane Doe) are on the right. Below this is a toolbar with icons for MyPie, Review, Dictionary, Calculator, Assignments, Gradebook, and Calendar. The main content area features a yellow instruction box: "Move your mouse to a pie slice to see what you are ready to learn. Then click on any available topic." Below this is a section titled "Beginning and Intermediate Algebra Combined" with a "MyPie" label and a "Need Help?" link. The central element is a pie chart representing "Course Mastery (192 of 416 Topics)". The chart is divided into several slices, each representing a topic area with its current progress and total number of topics. A dotted line indicates the current objective. A tooltip for the "Exponents and Polynomial Expressions" slice is open, showing a list of available topics for review.

Topic Area	Current Progress	Total Topics
Course Mastery	192	416
Exponential and Logarithmic Functions	0	25
Conic Sections and Sequences	0	10
Arithmetic Readiness	49	64
Real Numbers and Linear Equations	66	92
Graphs and Linear Functions	18	27
Systems of Linear Equations	4	17
Radicals and Rational Exponents	6	37
Functions	3	29
Quadratic Equations and Functions	1	20

Exponents and Polynomial Expressions

- Properties of Exponents
- Evaluating expressions with exponents of zero
- Quotient rule with negative exponents: Problem type 1
- Understanding the power rule of exponents

The dotted line represents your current **Objective**: Chapter 2 (01/28/2013) - due in 3 days; 7 topics left to master

After you select a topic, you will work on several problems that will help you learn the topic. If you know how to solve the problem, do your work on paper and input your final answer. ALEKS will tell you if you answered correctly or not.

The screenshot shows the ALEKS interface with a navigation bar at the top containing 'MyPie', 'Review', 'Dictionary', 'Calculator', 'Assignments', 'Gradebook', and 'Calendar'. The current assignment is 'Beg. and Int. Algebra'. The main content area displays a problem titled 'Translating a sentence into a two-step expression'. The problem asks to translate the phrase 'The product of seven less than a number and 15.1' into an algebraic expression using the variable n . The solution provided shows the expression $15.1(n - 7)$ in a text input box. A 'Practice' button is located at the bottom of the problem area. To the right of the problem, there is a yellow box with the text 'Click on the following for more information: "Product" and "Sum".' Below this is an 'Additional Resources' section with links to a textbook chapter and an exercise video.

If you need help with the problem, click on the **Explain** button to see:

- A detailed tutorial on how to do the problem.
- Links to the ALEKS Dictionary to help you with math terms and concepts
- Additional resources such as exercise videos, and a link to your textbook

Click on the **Practice** button when you are ready to practice more problems.

Once you have answered enough problems for the topic correctly, ALEKS will tell you that the problem has been “added to your pie.”

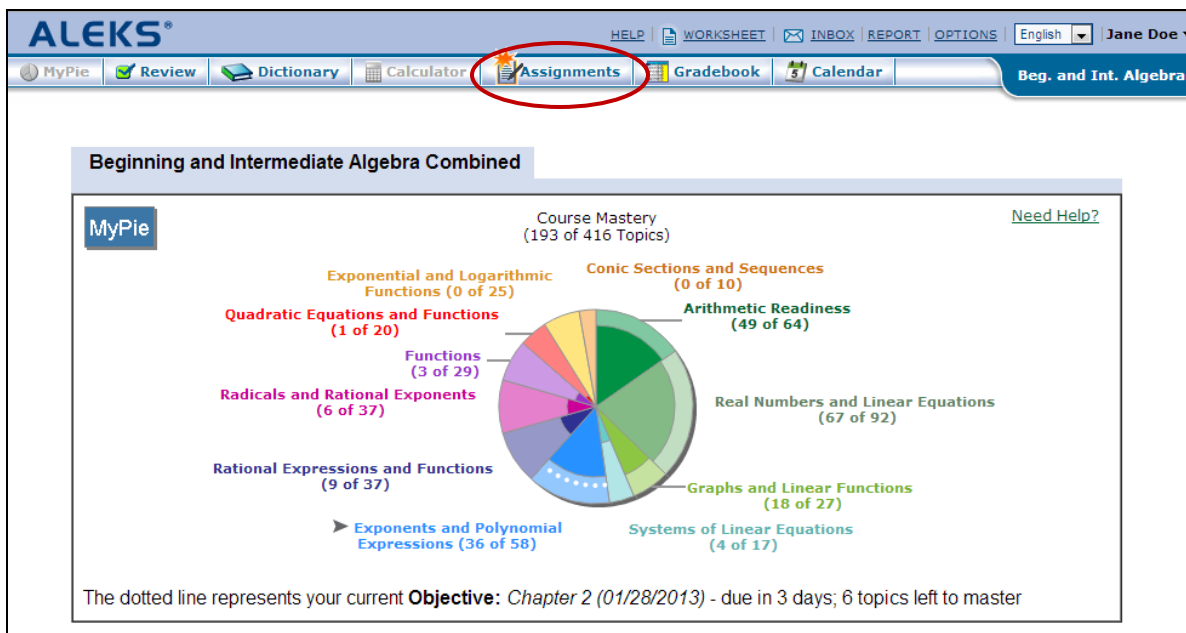
Click on the **Done** button to return to your pie. You will then see your overall course mastery updated, and the pie slice you were working in will also be updated.

The screenshot shows the ALEKS Learning Mode interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the ALEKS logo and several utility buttons: MyPie, Review, Dictionary, Calculator, Assignments, Gradebook, and Calendar. The user's name, Jane Doe, and the current course, Beg. and Int. Algebra, are displayed in the top right. The main content area contains a problem titled "Translating a sentence into a two-step expression". The problem asks the user to translate the phrase "Two more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of Craig's age" into an algebraic expression, using the variable c for Craig's age. The user has entered the answer $\frac{2}{3}c + 2$. A green "Done" button is visible below the answer. To the right of the problem area, a yellow box displays a "Very Good!" message, indicating that the user has mastered the question and that the slice of their "pie" has been updated.

Please Note: At regular intervals, **ALEKS** will provide you with a Progress Assessment to ensure that you are retaining what you are learning. If you do not demonstrate mastery of a topic on a progress assessment, it will transition back to the list of topics that you need to learn so that you can work on it again.



In addition to working in your pie and completing Intermediate Objectives, you will need to complete any Homework Assignments, Quizzes, and/or Tests that are assigned to you.



When assignments are ready for you to complete, the **Assignments** tab will activate with an orange burst icon. Click on the tab to view the assignments, along with their due dates.



ALEKS + Effort = Success in Math

- Don't wait until the last minute to meet a deadline in ALEKS – it will be harder to keep on pace and you will end up doing more work.
- ALEKS will give you periodic Progress Assessments from time to time to ensure you are retaining what you are learning. You will be brought back to your pie once you are finished.
- **Take each assessment seriously.** Do your best work without consulting outside resources – your performance on an ALEKS assessment will affect your pie. If you aren't serious and honest during an assessment, then you will only increase your workload!
- Active use of ALEKS will dramatically increase your performance and success in this class – ALEKS is more than just homework; it teaches you math!



To get started in ALEKS:

Step 1: Go to www.aleks.com and click on **SIGN UP NOW!** just below the Registered Users box.

The screenshot shows the ALEKS website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for LOGIN, ABOUT US, CAREERS, CONTACT US, NEWS, SUPPORT, and DOWNLOADS. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with links for HOME, WHAT IS ALEKS?, COURSE PRODUCTS, HIGHER EDUCATION, K-12, INDEPENDENT USE, and HOMESCHOOL. A search bar is located on the right side of the top navigation bar.

The main content area features a "REGISTERED USERS" section on the left with a login form (LOGIN NAME, PASSWORD, LOGIN button) and a link for "Forgot your login info?". Below the login form is a red-bordered box containing the text "NEW USER? SIGN UP NOW!". To the right of the login form is a "TO LEARN MORE:" section with two green circular icons and links: "Take the Tour" and "Begin Free Trial". Below this is a "WHAT'S NEW:" section with three bullet points: "Visit ALEKS at NCTM Annual Meeting", "LTI 1.1 Conformance", and "ALEKS Community Now Available".

The main content area is divided into three columns by colored headers: "HIGHER EDUCATION" (orange), "K-12" (purple), and "INDEPENDENT USE" (green). Each column contains a sub-header, a brief description of the product, and a list of links (Free Trial, Success Stories, Implementations, Buy ALEKS Now). The "HIGHER EDUCATION" column includes a photo of four diverse students. The "K-12" column includes a photo of three diverse students. The "INDEPENDENT USE" column includes a photo of a person using a laptop.



Class Information

Instructor: [Anna Durakiewicz]

Course Number: [Math 120]

Section Number: [302]

Class Code: **WGRCF-EXYLQ**

Step 2: Enter the 10-character class code and click on **Continue**.

Step 3-4: Verify your enrollment information to make sure you are in the right class, and then indicate whether you have used ALEKS before.

Using ALEKS with a Class?

K-12 - Higher Education

Register here if you are a new student and need to use ALEKS with your class. To begin, enter your 10-character course code below. You should have received this code from your instructor.

Course code: - [what's this?](#)

[» Continue](#)

[I don't have a course code](#)

ALEKS[®]

HOME

1 Confirm Course Code	2 Account Status	3 Course Access	4 Student Information	5 Account Creation	6 Registration Complete
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Welcome to ALEKS!

Have you used ALEKS before?

I have never used ALEKS before or I do not have an ALEKS login name.

I have an ALEKS login name.

[I forgot my login information](#)

[» Continue](#)

Step 5: Enter your 20-character ALEKS Access Code.

ALEKS®

HOME

- 1 Confirm Course Code
- 2 Account Status
- 3 **Course Access**
- 4 Student Information
- 5 Account Creation
- 6 Registration Complete

Enter Your Access Code

If you have a 20-character access code, enter it below.

If you do *not* have an access code, you can [purchase an access code online](#). If you have already purchased an access code online, you can find the code on the receipt that was e-mailed to you.

Access Code: - - - [what's this?](#)

Please Note: If you do not have an access code, you can purchase one online by clicking [purchase an access code online](#). You will be redirected to an eCommerce web site that will take you through the purchasing process.

Be sure your access code length will accommodate the length of your class!



Step 6: If you are new to ALEKS, then complete the registration steps to create an ALEKS account. If you are an existing ALEKS student, simply verify your email address.

Step 7: ALEKS will check if your computer has the ALEKS plug-in. Some ALEKS courses may require this, while others do not.

For a list of courses that do not require the ALEKS plug-in, visit:

http://www.aleks.com/support/system_requirements



Managing your ALEKS Account Home

Your Account Home allows you to easily manage all of your ALEKS classes with one login. You can change your email and password, sign up for new classes, suspend or extend access, and view previous classes. To return to your Account Home from within an ALEKS class, click on your name in the top, right corner and select **Account home** from the menu.

ALEKS®

Jane Doe ▾

Welcome back, Jane!

Click on the name of one of your active classes to continue working on ALEKS or click on "Sign up for a new class" to enroll in a new class.

[Sign up for a new class](#)

ACTIVE (1)

Individual College

[Beginning and Intermediate Algebra Combined / Math 301](#) Actions ▾

Instructor: **Prof. Smith**
Last Login: **01/25/2013**
Expiration Date: **02/15/2013**
[Show more](#)

INACTIVE (0)

There are no inactive classes.



For detailed instructions on ALEKS registration and managing your Account Home, visit:

http://www.aleks.com/highered/math/Higher_Ed_Student_Registration.pdf



ALEKS Technical Support:

- Hours (Eastern Time):
 - Monday – Friday, 7am – 1am
 - Sunday, 4pm – 1am
- Contact Support: <http://support.aleks.com>
- Visit: www.aleks.com/support
 - FAQs
 - User Guides
 - System Requirements
 - Troubleshooting

