

## Welcome to ALEKS at Wake Forest University

All students enrolled in Math 111 at Wake Forest University are required to complete a review program in basic algebra and pre-calculus concepts that are important to success in Calculus. This program is online through ALEKS and will begin with an ALEKS initial knowledge check. This knowledge check is an assessment that will cover material from Basic Math through Pre-calculus and will take approximately 2 hours to complete. Students will then work for 4 weeks on your individual Learning Path in ALEKS. Students will take a Final Assessment after completing the entire course or at the end of the 4 weeks in Learning Mode.

In order to begin this program you will need to register and create an account with ALEKS. You will pay with either an access code purchased from the bookstore or with your credit/debit card (approx. \$40) directly to the ALEKS program when you create an ALEKS account. **Please note:** If you create duplicate accounts you will be charged for each account! Once you are registered with ALEKS and have your account, ALEKS will direct you to begin the initial knowledge check. Your professor will provide you with information when it is time to register and create your account in ALEKS and take the initial assessment. You will do this between Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> and Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **As you begin the knowledge check, RELAX.**

- This is an assessment designed to determine your proficiency in math concepts that are fundamental to success in Calculus. The results of this initial knowledge check will not count toward your grade in Math 111.
- At the end of the ALEKS Initial Knowledge Check, you will have a much better sense of your strengths and weaknesses in math. You will then have a chance to improve your skills.
- There is no penalty for incorrectly answering a question on the knowledge check, you simply will not be considered proficient in the topics covered in that question. You will need to work to become proficient on these topics.
- You should **take the knowledge check seriously and give it an honest effort and your best effort** so that it truly reflects your level of math preparedness. The initial knowledge check can only be taken once, it cannot be retaken.

### **Be honest about your skill level.**

- There is no benefit to cheating on the knowledge check.
- While you are taking the knowledge check, do not consult any other source for help (friends, family, class notes, internet searches, etc.).
- The purpose of the knowledge check is to determine an accurate measure of your current mathematical skills so that you will be successful in your mathematics courses.
- Please remember the Honor Code. The initial knowledge check is considered a test.
- Your score on the initial knowledge check will indicate the number of fundamental math concepts that you are proficient in and can be used to determine how well prepared you are for Math 111. This initial knowledge check score DOES NOT count towards your grade.

### **What's next?**

You will use the ALEKS program to learn concepts which you have not already mastered. After you have completed your initial knowledge check, ALEKS custom designs a program of study called a Learning Path. You will use the Learning Path to review and learn and then you will take a final assessment the week of February 20-23. If you complete the entire ALEKS course on or before Friday, February 10, you may request to take your final assessment early if you prefer to do that instead of waiting until the end of the course. Your grade on the final assessment will count as approximately 10% of your Math 111 grade. Additionally, if you are enrolled in Math 105L your final assessment grade will be used to help determine your grade in Math 105L.

### **Will I earn college credit for completing ALEKS?**

You may earn one hour pass/fail credit for your work in ALEKS by enrolling in Math 105L in addition to your Math 111 course. Details regarding the requirements for earning a passing grade in Math 105L are located in the Math 105L syllabus given to you by your Math 111 professor.

## Must I work in my ALEKS Learning Path between the initial assessment and the final assessment?

Yes! Your score on the final assessment will be counted as approximately 10% of your final Math 111 grade for all sections of Math 111. The ALEKS system uses your progress in Learning Mode to determine the questions on your final assessment and in the calculation of your final assessment grade. If you have not mastered a topic in either the initial knowledge check or in learning mode, ALEKS will assume that you do not know that topic and will construct your assessment accordingly. Therefore, it is highly recommended that you work consistently in ALEKS between the initial and final assessments. Students enrolled in Math 105L must work in ALEKS during the 2 hour per week class meetings.

## How long will the initial knowledge check take to complete?

- Your initial knowledge check will take **approximately 2 to 2 ½ hours to complete**.
- The amount of time can vary by student.
- There will be between 30 and 40 questions.
- You must complete the initial knowledge check within 6 hours of beginning it. The initial knowledge check may be started anytime after Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 a.m. and must be finished by Friday January 20<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m.

## How long do I have access to my Prep and Learning Module or Learning Path?

You will have access 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to the Prep and Learning Module in ALEKS for six weeks from the time that you enroll and take the placement assessment or initial knowledge check.

## May I use a calculator while using ALEKS?

- ALEKS will provide an **on-screen calculator** if you need one to complete a particular problem. Graphing calculators or scientific calculators cannot be used during the assessments. But, you may use a four function calculator which has keys similar to this:



## May I use any other resources during an Initial Knowledge Check?

- You may only use a **pen or pencil, paper**, and the resources provided by ALEKS.
- You may not receive assistance from friends, family, other websites, textbooks, or any other resource not provided by ALEKS.
- Using outside resources may lead to improper placement within the ALEKS program and ultimately course failure.

## What are ALEKS Progress Assessments/ Knowledge Checks (Pop Quizzes)?

While working in your Learning Path, you will periodically complete quizzes, called Progress Assessments or Knowledge Checks, to check your understanding and retention of the topics you have recently learned. You must

complete these assessments when ALEKS presents them and then you will move back into Prep and Learning mode along your Learning Path.

### Where can I get technical help with ALEKS?

<http://www.aleks.com/faqs/technical>  
<http://support.aleks.com/>  
[\(714\) 619-7090](tel:7146197090)

### Where can I get help with topics or concepts in ALEKS?

The WFU Math Center has Math 105L classes and ALEKS study sessions from 5pm to 7pm Monday - Thursday nights with math graduate students available to help you. These classes and study sessions are located in Manchester 16. You may also request an appointment with a Math Center tutor by visiting the WFU Math Center website.

### How do I begin using ALEKS when it is time for me to enroll and take the assessment?

To enroll and begin your assessment, go to [www.aleks.com](http://www.aleks.com).

1. Click on **Sign up Now**.
2. In **Using ALEKS with a Class** type in the course code provided by your professor on Friday, Jan 13.
3. Click on Continue once.
4. Choose "I have never used ALEKS before or I do not have an ALEKS login name" even if you have used ALEKS before. Click Continue.
5. Paying for Access.
  - A. Enter the access code that you purchased at the bookstore or click on **purchase an access code**. Choose **ALEKS math (6 weeks)**. Click on **Continue**. **Enter your WFU email address**. Select North Carolina as your state and Wake Forest University (Winston Salem) as the school. Read the agreement. If you agree, click on **Continue**. Enter the credit card information.
6. Enter your personal information as requested. **If you have taken an Aleks class before, you will need to use a different email address than you used previously.**
7. Click on Continue.
8. **Write down your login name and password (you may change your password if you desire). Be sure to ask for a confirmation e-mail.**
9. Click continue several times.
10. Start the knowledge check or assessment.

Email your professor or the Math 105L professor/TA ([math105l@wfu.edu](mailto:math105l@wfu.edu)) with any questions