



ALEKS[®]

Setting Up a Course With Textbook Integration, and How to Create Custom Objectives and Modules

User Guide

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Use ALEKS with Textbook Integration

This document describes the steps for setting up a new course with textbook integration, including how to create Custom Objectives and Modules. This feature is available for all Higher-Ed Math and Business courses.

From the Course Set-Up Wizard, instructors choose “Yes” to set up the course with a textbook. Next, instructors select the name of the textbook that will be used in the course.

Course Set-Up Wizard - Textbook Integration, Custom Objectives and Modules

December 3, 2013

You have the option to integrate a textbook(*) with your course and to create objectives.

(1) *Textbook Integration.* With Textbook Integration, ALEKS will automatically place chapter and section references on the ALEKS explanation pages. This way, your students can easily look up parallel material in their textbook to expand on what they are doing in ALEKS.

Using Textbook Integration, you can also create Objectives (with due dates) based on the textbook chapters. These chapter objectives include all the ALEKS topics that correspond to the textbook chapter. The students' goal is to master all of these topics by the due date for the objective, and the percentage of topics mastered by the due date is automatically sent to the gradebook.

(2) *Custom Objectives.* When using Textbook Integration you also have the option to create and assign Custom Objectives, where an Objective can contain material across multiple chapters of the textbook.

(3) *ALEKS Modules.* You also have the option to create a set of Modules, which are all Custom Objectives. You determine the entire content of each Module without regard to the organization of the material in the ALEKS Pie or the textbook (if you are using a textbook).

Do you plan to use a textbook with ALEKS?

Yes

No

Select your textbook:

(Choose one) ▼

my textbook isn't here...

Do you plan to use:

Chapter-based Objectives with optional Custom Objectives

All Modules (Custom Objectives)

No Objectives or Modules of any kind

(Students will see textbook references, but the textbook will not direct student learning and ALEKS topics not covered in the textbook will be turned off by default.)

Instructors have three options with Textbook Integration, which automatically include textbook references (and media assets with MH books when available) on the explain pages:

1. [Chapter-based Objectives with Optional Custom Objectives](#) – Instructors can quickly make Chapter Objectives by simply putting a due date on each chapter they want to cover. They also have the option to make [Custom Objectives](#). Custom Objectives can be used to split Chapters into multiple objectives or they can be used to combine material across multiple chapters.
2. [All Modules \(Custom Objectives\)](#) – There are no pre-built chapter Objectives. Unlike Option 1 above, instructors start with a clean slate and build all Objectives using the Custom Objectives feature.
3. [No Objectives or Modules of Any Kind](#) – Students will only have textbook references on the explain pages (and focused media assets with MH books), but the textbook will not direct student learning. After selecting this option, instructors arrive at the [Content Editor](#).

1. Chapter–Based Objectives with Optional Custom Objectives

Do you plan to use:

Chapter-based Objectives with optional Custom Objectives

All Modules (Custom Objectives)

No Objectives or Modules of any kind
(Students will see textbook references, but the textbook will not direct student learning)

The Objectives Editor

After selecting the “Chapter-based Objectives with optional Custom Objectives” option, instructors arrive at a page where they can select the Objectives they want to include in the course. Instructions in the yellow box to the right of the page provide step-by-step guidance on how to use the tool. Instructors click the chapters they want to include and select the end dates. They can also click on “Edit” to modify the content of each Objective.

At the bottom of the page is a button called “Create a New Custom Objective”. This tool can be used to split chapters or to combine material across multiple chapters.

Course Set-Up Wizard - Select Objectives

Textbook(*) in use: Aufmann/Barker/Lockwood: Basic College Mathematics: An Applied Approach, 8th Ed. (Houghton Mifflin, Paperback)
[Switch to Objectives without End Dates ?](#)

Objective	Start Date	End Date ?	Order
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ch.1-Introduction to Whole Numbers Edit (64 goal topics)	12/05/2013	12/12/2013	▲ ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ch.2-Fractions Edit (38 goal topics)	12/13/2013	12/27/2013	▲ ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ch.3-Decimals Edit (29 goal topics)	12/28/2013	12/31/2013	▲ ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ch.4-Ratio and Proportion Edit (7 goal topics)	01/01/2014	01/09/2014	▲ ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ch.5-Percents Edit (7 goal topics)	01/10/2014	01/24/2014	▲ ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ch.6-Applications for Business and Consumers Edit (4 goal topics)	01/25/2014	01/31/2014	▲ ▼
<input type="checkbox"/> Ch.7-Statistics and Probability Edit (18 goal topics)			▲ ▼
<input type="checkbox"/> Ch.8-U.S. Customary Units of Measurement Edit (8 goal topics)			▲ ▼
<input type="checkbox"/> Ch.9-The Metric System of Measurement Edit (7 goal topics)			▲ ▼
<input type="checkbox"/> Ch.10-Rational Numbers Edit (28 goal topics)			▲ ▼
<input type="checkbox"/> Ch.11-Introduction to Algebra Edit (40 goal topics)			▲ ▼
<input type="checkbox"/> Ch.12-Geometry Edit (45 goal topics)			▲ ▼
<input type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Topics on Exponents and Polynomials (not in textbook) Edit (30 goal topics)			▲ ▼
<input type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Topics on Graphing (not in textbook) Edit (15 goal topics)			▲ ▼

How to use this tool:

Step 1:
Deselect the check box to remove Objectives you want to exclude.

Step 2 (optional):
You can also make Custom Objectives to split chapters or to combine material across multiple chapters. To create these Objectives, click on the “Create a New Custom Objective” button as necessary.

Step 3:
Drag and drop your Objectives so they are in the order in which your students should take them — the first Objective at the top and the last Objective at the bottom.

Step 4:
Select the end dates. Objectives are due by 11:59pm on the end date.
ALEKS will automatically assign a start date for each Objective to follow the previous Objective’s end date.

[Create a New Custom Objective](#)

How to Create a New Custom Objective and Split Chapters

Below are three examples of how instructors can create Custom Objectives to use with their course.

After clicking on the “Create a New Custom Objective” button, instructors arrive at a page where they can select the chapters, sections, and topics they would like to include in the Custom Objective.

Checking the box at the chapter level automatically checks all sections and topics in the chapter. Clicking on the “+” sign by the chapter folder expands the view so instructors can see the sections. Clicking on the “+” by the section folder displays topics.

Example 1: In this scenario, an instructor wants to create a Custom Objective with portions of a chapter (e.g. include Sections 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, but exclude 7.4 and 7.5).

1. First, the instructor checks the box next to the sections to be included.
2. Next, the instructor enters a name for the Custom Objective. The system automatically generates a default name, but the instructor can overwrite the default with a preferred name.
3. Finally, the instructor clicks on the “Done” button.

Create a Custom Objective

Select the chapters, sections, and topics that you would like to include in this Custom Objective. Please enter a relevant name for your Custom Objective. The name will be reflected in the gradebook, reports, and other areas visible to you and your students.

(Required) Custom Objective Name: 25 characters max

You have selected **9 topics** out of **395 available** [Reset Changes](#)

Textbook View Slice View

- Ch.2-Fractions
- Ch.3-Decimals
- Ch.4-Ratio and Proportion
- Ch.5-Percents
- Ch.6-Applications for Business and Consumers
- Ch.7-Statistics and Probability
 - Section 7.1
 - Section 7.2
 - Section 7.3
 - Section 7.4
 - Section 7.5
- Chapter 7 Supplementary Topics
- Ch.8-U.S. Customary Units of Measurement

or

The instructor then returns to the Course Setup Wizard. Custom Objective #1 can be found at the bottom of the table.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Supplemental Topics on Exponents and Polynomials (not in textbook) Edit (30 goal topics)		▲ ▼
<input type="checkbox"/>	Supplemental Topics on Graphing (not in textbook) Edit (15 goal topics)		▲ ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Custom Objective #1 Edit (9 goal topics)	02/01/2014	▲ ▼

[Create a New Custom Objective](#)

Example 2: In this scenario, an instructor wants to create a Custom Objective including the portions excluded from Custom Objective #1 (Section 7.4 and 7.5) and all of chapter 8.

After clicking on the “Create a New Custom Objective” button, the instructor arrives at a page to select the chapters, sections, and topics to be included in the Custom Objective.

The instructor completes steps 1-3 as outlined in [Example 1](#).

Create a Custom Objective

Select the chapters, sections, and topics that you would like to include in this Custom Objective. Please enter a relevant name for your Custom Objective. The name will be reflected in the gradebook, reports, and other areas visible to you and your students.

(Required) **Custom Objective Name:** 25 characters max

You have selected **17 topics** out of **395 available**. [Reset Changes](#)

Textbook View |

- Ch.6-Applications for Business and Consumers
- Ch.7-Statistics and Probability
 - Section 7.1
 - Section 7.2
 - Section 7.3
 - Section 7.4
 - Section 7.5
- Chapter 7 Supplementary Topics
- Ch.8-U.S. Customary Units of Measurement
 - Section 8.1
 - Section 8.2
 - Section 8.3
 - Section 8.4

or [Cancel](#)

Example 3: In this scenario, an instructor wishes to create a Custom Objective with a combination of Chapters 1-3 for students to review before a mid-term.

After clicking on the “Create a New Custom Objective” button, the instructor arrives at a page to select the chapters, sections, and topics to be included in the Custom Objective.

The instructor completes steps 1-3 as outlined in [Example 1](#).

Create a Custom Objective

Select the chapters, sections, and topics that you would like to include in this Custom Objective. Please enter a relevant name for your Custom Objective. The name will be reflected in the gradebook, reports, and other areas visible to you and your students.

(Required) **Custom Objective Name:** 25 characters max

You have selected **131 topics** out of **395 available**. **Reset Changes**

Textbook View | Slice View

- Basic College Mathematics: An Applied Approach, 8th Ed. [[open all](#) | [close all](#)]
- Ch.1-Introduction to Whole Numbers
- Ch.2-Fractions
- Ch.3-Decimals
- Ch.4-Ratio and Proportion
- Ch.5-Percents
- Ch.6-Applications for Business and Consumers
- Ch.7-Statistics and Probability
- Ch.8-U.S. Customary Units of Measurement
- Ch.9-The Metric System of Measurement
- Ch.10-Rational Numbers
- Ch.11-Introduction to Algebra
- Ch.12-Geometry

Done or **Cancel**

Once created, all Custom Objectives can be found at the bottom of the table. Instructors can now order and assign end dates for these Custom Objectives just as they would with the chapter objectives.

Course Set-Up Wizard - Select Objectives

Textbook(*) in use: Aufmann/Barker/Lockwood: Basic College Mathematics: An Applied Approach, 8th Ed. (Houghton Mifflin, Paperback)
[Switch to Objectives without End Dates](#) (?)

Objective	Start Date	End Date ?	Order
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ch.1-Introduction to Whole Numbers Edit (64 goal topics)	12/05/2013	12/12/2013	▲▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ch.2-Fractions Edit (38 goal topics)	12/13/2013	12/27/2013	▲▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ch.3-Decimals Edit (29 goal topics)	12/28/2013	12/31/2013	▲▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ch.4-Ratio and Proportion Edit (7 goal topics)	01/01/2014	01/09/2014	▲▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ch.5-Percents Edit (7 goal topics)	01/10/2014	01/24/2014	▲▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ch.6-Applications for Business and Consumers Edit (4 goal topics)	01/25/2014	01/31/2014	▲▼
<input type="checkbox"/> Ch.7-Statistics and Probability Edit (18 goal topics)			▲▼
<input type="checkbox"/> Ch.8-U.S. Customary Units of Measurement Edit (8 goal topics)			▲▼
<input type="checkbox"/> Ch.9-The Metric System of Measurement Edit (7 goal topics)			▲▼
<input type="checkbox"/> Ch.10-Rational Numbers Edit (28 goal topics)			▲▼
<input type="checkbox"/> Ch.11-Introduction to Algebra Edit (40 goal topics)			▲▼
<input type="checkbox"/> Ch.12-Geometry Edit (45 goal topics)			▲▼
<input type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Topics on Exponents and Polynomials (not in textbook) Edit (30 goal topics)			▲▼
<input type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Topics on Graphing (not in textbook) Edit (15 goal topics)			▲▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Custom Objective #1 Edit (9 goal topics)	02/01/2014		▲▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Custom Objective #2 Edit (17 goal topics)			▲▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Custom Objective #3 Edit (131 goal topics)			▲▼

How to use this tool:

Step 1: Deselect the check box to remove Objectives you want to exclude.

Step 2 (optional): You can also make Custom Objectives to split chapters or to combine material across multiple chapters. To create these Objectives, click on the "Create a New Custom Objective" button as necessary.

Step 3: Drag and drop your Objectives so they are in the order in which your students should take them — the first Objective at the top and the last Objective at the bottom.

Step 4: Select the end dates. Objectives are due by 11:59pm on the end date.

ALEKS will automatically assign a start date for each Objective to follow the previous Objective's end date.

Custom Objectives can be moved in between Chapter Objectives by dragging and dropping them in the order that students will complete them.

Course Set-Up Wizard - Select Objectives

Textbook(*) in use: Aufmann/Barker/Lockwood: Basic College Mathematics: An Applied Approach, 8th Ed. (Houghton Mifflin, Paperback)
[Switch to Objectives without End Dates](#) ?

Objective	Start Date	End Date ?	Order
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ch.1-Introduction to Whole Numbers Edit (64 goal topics)	12/05/2013	12/12/2013	▲ ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ch.2-Fractions Edit (38 goal topics)	12/13/2013	12/27/2013	▲ ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Custom Objective #1 Edit (9 goal topics)	12/28/2013	12/30/2013	▲ ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ch.3-Decimals Edit (29 goal topics)	12/31/2013	12/31/2013	▲ ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Custom Objective #2 Edit (17 goal topics)	01/01/2014	01/07/2014	▲ ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ch.4-Ratio and Proportion Edit (7 goal topics)	01/08/2014	01/09/2014	▲ ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Custom Objective #3 Edit (131 goal topics)	01/08/2014	01/09/2014	▲ ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ch.5-Percents Edit (7 goal topics)	01/10/2014	01/24/2014	▲ ▼

How to use this tool:

Step 1:
Deselect the check box to remove Objectives you want to exclude.

Step 2 (optional):
You can also make Custom Objectives to split chapters or to combine material across multiple chapters. To create these Objectives, click on the "Create a New Custom Objective" button as necessary.

Step 3:
Drag and drop your Objectives so they are in the order in which your students should take them – the first Objective at the top and the last Objective at the bottom.

Step 4:
Select the end dates. Objectives are due by 11:59pm on the end date.
ALEKS will automatically

Instructors select a preference for how ALEKS will behave when students complete an Objective before the scheduled end date.

When students complete an Objective assignment *before* the scheduled End Date, they can either be automatically assessed on this material or moved to the next Objective.

Choose your preference below:

Students who complete the current Objective before the End Date will be given an assessment to ensure mastery of the Objective material. (Recommended)

Students who complete the current Objective before the End Date will be allowed to move to the next Objective without being assessed.

Note: After the Objective End Date, all students will move to the next scheduled Objective.

Objective Pie

Enable the Objective Pie view for students in this class. (Recommended)

Make Objective Pie the default view for students.

When this option is enabled, students can switch between the full ALEKS Pie, encompassing all topics in this course, and the Objective Pie, encompassing the topics involved in the current Objective. ?

[\[Save for Later\]](#) [Previous Step](#) [Next Step](#)

Please note: If instructors are using the Basic Instructor Module, they will continue through the course creation wizard with the additional page below. Instructors click on the “Next Step” button.

Course Set-Up Wizard - Select Objectives (Review)

Your custom syllabus is shown below:

Objective	Start Date	End Date
Ch.1-Introduction to Whole Numbers	12/05/2013	12/12/2013
Ch.2-Fractions	12/13/2013	12/27/2013
Custom Objective #1	12/28/2013	12/30/2013
Ch.3-Decimals	12/31/2013	12/31/2013
Custom Objective #2	01/01/2014	01/07/2014
Ch.4-Ratio and Proportion Custom Objective #3	01/08/2014	01/09/2014
Ch.5-Percents	01/10/2014	01/24/2014
Ch.6-Applications for Business and Consumers	01/25/2014	01/31/2014

To make changes, please click the "Previous Step" button below.

Students who complete the current Objective before the End Date will be given an assessment to ensure mastery of the Objective material.

[\[Save for Later\]](#)
[Previous Step](#)
[Next Step](#)

Topic Recommendation (TREC) Tool

If instructors do not select the appropriate prerequisite topics in their course content to optimize student learning, the Topic Recommendation (TREC) tool appears and provides instructors with a way to add prerequisite topics to their content. See the “[Topic Recommendation \(TREC\) Tool](#)” document for details.

The course details are displayed on the Review and Save page. Instructors will conclude the course set-up by clicking on the “Save” button.

Course Set-Up Wizard - Review and Save

Here is how your course will be set up:

- **Course Name:** Basic Math ([edit](#))
- **Section Name:** Objectives with Custom Objective ([edit](#))
- **ALEKS Course:** Basic Math ([edit](#))
- **Subscription Type:** Higher-Ed any access code ([edit](#))
- **Start Date:** 12/05/2013 ([edit](#))
- **End Date:** 12/04/2014 ([edit](#))
- **Textbook:** Aufmann/Barker/Lockwood: Basic College Mathematics: An Applied Approach, 8th Ed. (Houghton Mifflin, Paperback) ([edit](#))
- **Objectives:** 6 chapters selected and 3 custom Objectives selected ([edit](#))
- **QuickTables:** n/a ([edit](#))

Please click on "Save" below to finalize your course, or click on "Previous Step" to make any changes.

[\[Previous Step\]](#)
[Save](#)

Instructors arrive at a confirmation page where the course details are displayed. There is a link to “Download ALEKS Course Syllabus.” Clicking on this link generates a PDF or HTML webpage that includes the Course Syllabus, topics, Custom Objectives, and due dates.

Your changes have been saved successfully.

Course Set-Up Wizard - Confirmation

Course Code: MTGXT-R9ND9

Course details:

- **Course Name:** Basic Math
- **Section Name:** Objectives with Custom Objective
- **ALEKS Course:** Basic Math
- **Subscription Type:** Higher-Ed any access code
- **Start Date:** 12/05/2013
- **End Date:** 12/04/2014
- **Textbook:** Aufmann/Barker/Lockwood: Basic College Mathematics: An Applied Approach, 8th Ed. (Houghton Mifflin, Paperback)
- **Objectives:** 6 chapters selected and 3 custom Objectives selected
- **QuickTables:** n/a

[Download ALEKS Course Syllabus](#)

ALEKS Course Syllabus

Below is an example of the ALEKS Course Syllabus.

Course Name: Basic Math – Objectives with Custom Objective	Course Code: MTGXT-R9ND9
ALEKS Course: Basic Math	Instructor: Ms. Pham (Admin)
Course Dates: Begin: 12/05/2013 End: 12/04/2014	Course Content: 182 topics
Textbook: Aufmann/Barker/Lockwood: Basic College Mathematics: An Applied Approach, 8th Ed. (Houghton Mifflin, Paperback)	

Dates Covered	Objective
12/05/13 - 12/12/13	1. Ch.1-Introduction to Whole Numbers
12/13/13 - 12/27/13	2. Ch.2-Fractions
12/28/13 - 12/30/13	3. Custom Objective #1
12/31/13 - 12/31/13	4. Ch.3-Decimals
01/01/14 - 01/07/14	5. Custom Objective #2
01/08/14 - 01/09/14	6. Ch.4-Ratio and Proportion
01/08/14 - 01/09/14	7. Custom Objective #3
01/10/14 - 01/24/14	8. Ch.5-Percents
01/25/14 - 01/31/14	9. Ch.6-Applications for Business and Consumers

Ch.1-Introduction to Whole Numbers (64 topics, due on 12/12/13)

- Whole number place value: Problem type 1
- Whole number place value: Problem type 2
- expanded form
- Expanded form with zeros
- Numeral translation: Problem type 1

2. All Modules (Custom Objectives)

Do you plan to use:

Chapter-based Objectives with optional Custom Objectives

All Modules (Custom Objectives)

No Objectives or Modules of any kind
(Students will see textbook references, but the textbook will not direct student learning)

After selecting the “All Modules (Custom Objectives)” option, instructors arrive at a page to create Custom Objectives. This table will be blank until Custom Objectives have been created. Instructions on how to use this tool are provided in the yellow box to the right of the page.

Instructors click on the “Create a New Custom Objective” button to create as many Custom Objectives as desired.

Please return to the [“How to Create a New Custom Objective and Split Chapters”](#) section to review the step-by-step guide.

Course Set-Up Wizard - Select Objectives

Textbook^{*} in use: Aufmann/Barker/Lockwood: Basic College Mathematics: An Applied Approach, 8th Ed. (Houghton Mifflin, Paperback)

Objective	Start Date ?	End Date
		<input type="text"/>

How to use this tool:

Step 1:
Click on the “Create a New Custom Objective” button to create as many objectives as needed for this course.

Step 2:
Drag and drop your objectives so they are in the order in which your students should take them – the first objective at the top and the last objective at the bottom.

Step 3:
Select the end dates.

ALEKS will automatically assign a start date for each objective to follow the previous objective’s end date.

←

Instructors continue with the course set-up process until they arrive at a confirmation page indicating that the course set-up is complete.

3. No Objectives or Modules of Any Kind

Do you plan to use:

Chapter-based Objectives with optional Custom Objectives

All Modules (Custom Objectives)

No Objectives or Modules of any kind
(Students will see textbook references, but the textbook will not direct student learning)

After selecting the “No Objectives or Modules of any kind” option, instructors arrive at the Content Editor below. On this page, instructors can adjust the content they want to include in the course.

Content Editor

The Content Editor should be used to completely remove topics from the course. Any topics or sections taken out of the Content Editor will be removed completely from the course. After making any necessary selections, the instructor clicks on the “Next Step” button.

Course Set-Up Wizard - Edit Content

Check the box next to content you want to include in your course.
Uncheck the box next to content you want to exclude.

You have selected **340 topics** out of **395 available**. [Reset Changes](#)

Basic College Mathematics: An Applied Approach, 8th Ed. [[open all](#) | [close all](#)]

- Ch.1-Introduction to Whole Numbers
- Ch.2-Fractions
- Ch.3-Decimals
- Ch.4-Ratio and Proportion
- Ch.5-Percents
- Ch.6-Applications for Business and Consumers
- Ch.7-Statistics and Probability
- Ch.8-U.S. Customary Units of Measurement
- Ch.9-The Metric System of Measurement
- Ch.10-Rational Numbers
- Ch.11-Introduction to Algebra
- Ch.12-Geometry
- Supplemental Topics on Exponents and Polynomials (not in textbook)
- Supplemental Topics on Graphing (not in textbook)

[\[Save for Later\]](#) [Previous Step](#) [Next Step](#)

Instructors will continue with the course set-up process until they arrive at a confirmation page indicating that the course set-up is complete.



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E: <http://support.aleks.com>