

Supporting Information for

**Implementation and Evaluation of an Adaptive Online Summer Preparatory Course for General
Chemistry: Whom Does it Benefit?**

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Table S1. Course Key

| <i>Course Abbreviation</i> | <i>Course Description</i> |
|----------------------------|--|
| CHEM 1001 = GC1-nonM | General Chemistry 1 (includes mostly non-majors) |
| CHEM 1002 = GC2-nonM | General Chemistry 2 (includes mostly non-majors) |
| CHEM 1013 = GC1-M | General Chemistry 1 for majors |
| CHEM 1014 = GC2-M | General Chemistry 2 for majors |
| CHEM 2111 = OC1-nonM | Organic Chemistry 1 (includes mostly non-majors) |
| CHEM 2112 = OC2-nonM | Organic Chemistry 2 (includes mostly non-majors) |
| CHEM 2113 = OC1-M | Organic Chemistry 1 for majors |
| CHEM 2114 = OC2-M | Organic Chemistry 2 for majors |

Table S2. Breakdown of ALEKS preparatory module, Summer 2018.

| <i>Sub-Module</i> | <i>Sub-Module Topic</i> | <i>Number of Topics</i> |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Math and Physics | | 40 |
| | <i>Math</i> | 12 |
| | <i>Algebra</i> | 15 |
| | <i>Linear Equations</i> | 1 |
| | <i>Quadratic Equations</i> | 1 |
| | <i>Graphing Equations</i> | 2 |
| | <i>Graphing Equations</i> | 2 |
| | <i>Electrostatics</i> | 7 |
| Measurement | | 23 |
| | <i>Scientific Notation</i> | 6 |
| | <i>SI Units</i> | 5 |
| | <i>Measurement Math</i> | 3 |
| | <i>Measurement Uncertainty</i> | 5 |
| | <i>Problem Solving</i> | 4 |
| Matter | | 17 |
| | <i>Mass, Volume, Density</i> | 7 |
| | <i>Atomic Theory</i> | 4 |
| | <i>Chemical Elements</i> | 6 |
| Atoms and Ions | | 9 |
| | <i>Atomic Structure</i> | 4 |
| | <i>Ions</i> | 5 |
| Chemical Compounds | | 16 |
| | <i>Chemical Formulas</i> | 3 |
| | <i>Binary Ionic Compounds</i> | 3 |
| | <i>Polyatomic Ions</i> | 4 |
| | <i>Names of Compounds</i> | 6 |
| Stoichiometry | | 20 |
| | <i>Moles and Molar Mass</i> | 10 |
| | <i>Chemical Equations</i> | 4 |
| | <i>Solution Stoichiometry</i> | 6 |
| Basic Reactions | | 6 |
| | <i>Precipitation Reactions</i> | 2 |
| | <i>Acid-Base Reactions</i> | 2 |
| | <i>Oxidation-Reduction</i> | 2 |
| Gases | | 6 |
| | <i>Gas Laws</i> | 6 |
| TOTAL | | 137 |

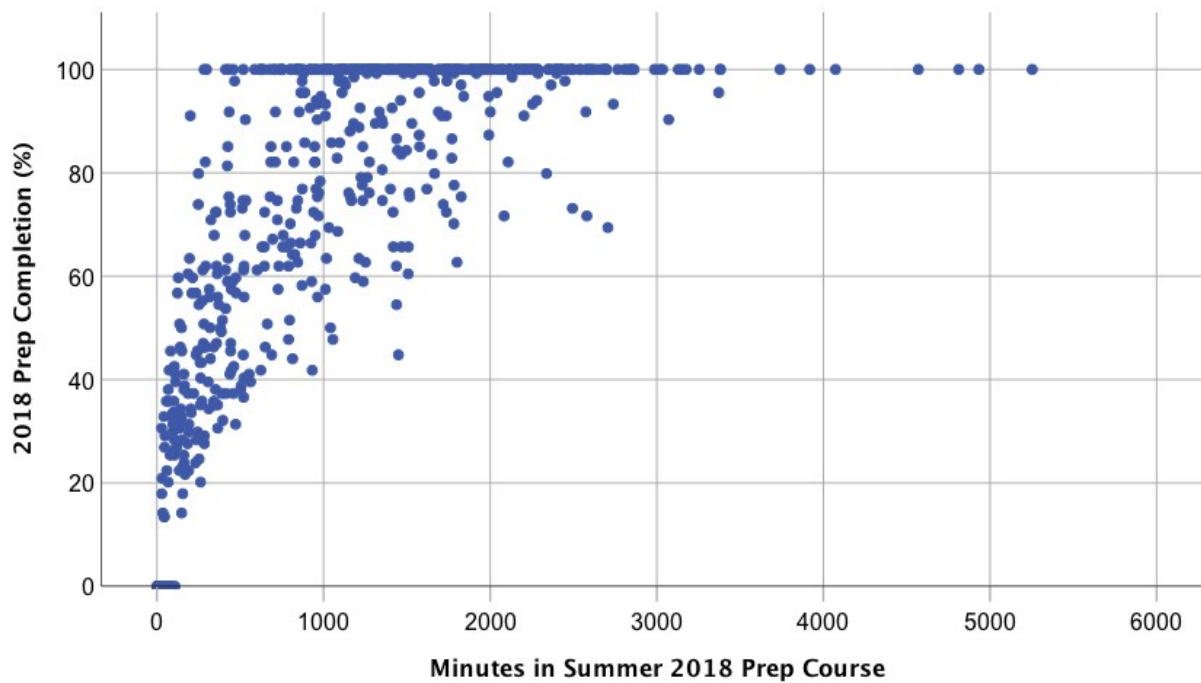
Table S3. Descriptive statistics for the ALEKS learning rate (topics per hour) for two student cohorts based upon prep module completion.

| <i>Key</i> | <i>N</i> | <i>Mean</i> | <i>SD of mean</i> | <i>Skewness</i> | <i>SE of Skewness</i> | <i>Kurtosis</i> | <i>SE of Kurtosis</i> |
|--------------------|----------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Partial Completion | 395 | 12.2 | 11.3 | 2.63 | 0.12 | 9.50 | 0.25 |
| Full Completion | 360 | 6.2 | 3.5 | 2.46 | 0.13 | 9.77 | 0.26 |

Table S4. Pearson Correlations of Course grades with PQPA and PM completion.

| | | PQPA | PM Completion | Grade 1001 | Grade 1002 | Grade 2111 | Grade 2112 |
|---------------|---------------------|--------|---------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| PQPA | Pearson Correlation | 1 | 0.456 | 0.585 | 0.543 | 0.377 | 0.371 |
| | Sig. (2-tailed) | | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| | N | 578 | 578 | 517 | 381 | 223 | 170 |
| PM Completion | Pearson Correlation | 0.456 | 1 | 0.496 | 0.478 | 0.373 | 0.420 |
| | Sig. (2-tailed) | <0.001 | | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| | N | 578 | 578 | 517 | 381 | 223 | 170 |
| Grade 1001 | Pearson Correlation | 0.585 | 0.496 | 1 | 0.748 | 0.551 | 0.519 |
| | Sig. (2-tailed) | <0.001 | <0.001 | | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| | N | 517 | 517 | 517 | 375 | 215 | 161 |
| Grade 1002 | Pearson Correlation | 0.543 | 0.478 | 0.748 | 1 | 0.627 | 0.648 |
| | Sig. (2-tailed) | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| | N | 381 | 381 | 375 | 381 | 193 | 148 |
| Grade 2111 | Pearson Correlation | 0.377 | 0.373 | 0.551 | 0.627 | 1 | 0.775 |
| | Sig. (2-tailed) | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | | <0.001 |
| | N | 223 | 223 | 215 | 193 | 223 | 168 |
| Grade 2112 | Pearson Correlation | 0.371 | 0.420 | 0.519 | 0.648 | 0.775 | 1 |
| | Sig. (2-tailed) | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | |
| | N | 170 | 170 | 161 | 148 | 168 | 170 |

Figure S1. Preparatory course completion % vs. minutes spent for students enrolled in the summer 2018 preparatory course.



SUMMER PREP COURSE FOR GENERAL CHEMISTRY: QUICKSTART GUIDE

Are you enrolled in general chemistry at Marquette for Fall 2018? Welcome to the 2018 summer prep course!

What is the prep course?

This year we are using the ALEKS program to host a free, online prep course for all students taking general chemistry courses in the fall. The prep course is designed to help prepare you for college-level chemistry.

Do I have to complete the prep course? What do I receive if I complete the course?

You are not required to complete the course. However, not only will it prepare you for general chemistry, all instructors have agreed to count completion of the prep course as a small portion of the fall course grade.

How long will it take me to complete the prep course? When is the prep course due?

The ALEKS program performs an initial assessment of your knowledge across the selected topic areas, as described fully below. The time needed to complete the course will depend upon this assessment – the median time is around 20 hours. **The course will close on Sunday, September 9th, 2018 at 11:59 pm.**

What is ALEKS?

Assessment and LEarning in Knowledge Spaces is a Web-based, artificially intelligent assessment and learning system. ALEKS uses adaptive questioning to quickly and accurately determine exactly what a student knows and doesn't know in a course. ALEKS then instructs the student on the topics she is most ready to learn. As a student works through a course, ALEKS periodically reassesses the student to ensure that topics learned are also retained. ALEKS courses are very complete in their topic coverage and ALEKS avoids multiple-choice questions. A student who shows a high level of mastery of an ALEKS course will be successful in the actual course she is taking.

ALEKS also provides the advantages of one-on-one instruction, 24/7, from virtually any Web-based computer for a fraction of the cost of a human tutor.

Do I need to purchase access? What does it cost?

No. Your instructor has arranged for use of this powerful software at no charge this term.

How do I log-in?

- 1) Go to www.aleks.com

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2018 Summer Preparatory Course Survey

Start of Block: Prep Course Survey

Q1 This survey concerns the ALEKS preparatory course offered in summer 2018. You are being invited into the survey because you were invited to participate in that course. All data collected from the survey will be used in aggregate form, and all responses are anonymous. By selecting yes below, you consent to allow your responses to be used in our analysis.

- Yes, I consent to participate. (Survey will start) (1)
- No, I do not wish to participate. (Survey will end) (2)

Skip To: End of Survey If This survey concerns the ALEKS preparatory course offered in summer 2018. You are being invited i... = No, I do not wish to participate. (Survey will end)

Q2 Section 1: Participation in the 2018 ALEKS Preparatory Course

If you can recall, approximately what percentage of topics in the summer preparatory course did you complete?

- All: 100% (1)
 - Most: at least 50%, but not 100%. (2)
 - Some: less than 50%. (3)
 - None: I did not complete any topics. (4)
 - I do not remember or do not wish to answer. (5)
-

Q3 If you did not attempt or did not complete the preparatory course, which of the following factors (if any) played a role? (Select all that apply)

The preparatory course was too difficult. (1)

I did not have time to complete the course due to other activities (work, etc.) (2)

I did not need to complete the prep course, as I was already well prepared for college level chemistry. (3)

I did not wish to participate. (4)

I did not have access to resources needed to complete the course. (5)

Other (please explain) (6) _____



Q4 This question concerns your experience with the summer 2018 preparatory course. For each statement, rank your level of agreement, from strongly agree to strongly disagree.

| | Strongly Agree (1) | Slightly Agree (2) | Neither Agree nor Disagree (3) | Slightly Disagree (4) | Strongly Disagree (5) |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| The summer preparatory course helped prepare me for CHEM 1001. (1) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| The range of topics in the preparatory course well matched the topics covered in CHEM 1001. (2) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| The explanations given in ALEKS were helpful. (3) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Looking back, I wish that I had spent more time in the preparatory course. (4) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Having access to an instructor through virtual office hours would have been beneficial in completing the prep course. (5) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I would recommend a summer prep | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

course to
future CHEM
1001
students. (6)

The summer
prep course
helped me in
my
subsequent
chemistry
courses
following
CHEM 1001
(i.e., CHEM
1002, 2111,
or 2112). (7)



Q5 Section 2: Basic Demographic Data

Please answer the following demographic questions.

What is your current major at Marquette?

- Biomedical Sciences (1)
 - Biology (2)
 - Biochemistry or Chemistry (3)
 - Engineering (any major) (4)
 - Health Sciences (other than Biomedical Sciences) (5)
 - Other (6)
-

Q6 How would you identify your gender?

- Male (1)
 - Female (2)
 - Non-binary (3)
 - Prefer not to answer (4)
-

Q7 How would you identify your ethnicity?

- Asian (1)
- Black/African (2)
- Caucasian (3)
- Hispanic/LatinX (4)
- Native American (5)
- Pacific Islander (6)
- Other (7)
- Prefer not to answer (8)

End of Block: Prep Course Survey
