

2021-2022 Information for General Chemistry Placements (ALEKS Placement)

Who needs to take General Chemistry ALEKS Placements?

1. **ALEKS Placement 1:** Students who plan to take CHEM 1215, 1215L, or 1217.
2. **ALEKS Placement 2:** Students who plan to take CHEM 1225/1225L, but have not taken CHEM 1215 and 1215L and received a C or better grade.

How will the ALEKS placement scores determine which course I take?

- CHEM 1215, 1215L or 1217 require a minimum **ALEKS Placement 1** score greater than 30%.
- If you do not have a score that is greater than 30% from **ALEKS Placement 1**, you must take CHEM 1105 and receive a C or better or CR grade before you can take CHEM 1215 and 1215L.
- CHEM 1225 and 1225L require a minimum **ALEKS Placement 2** score greater than 50%.

Why am I required to take ALEKS Chemistry Placement 1?

General chemistry, 1215, 1225, 1217, and 1227, are rigorous science courses which build a foundation for many advanced science courses you need to take in the future. Consequently, more than 26 degree programs at UNM required General Chemistry for their students, and many science subject courses use CHEM 1215/1217 as the pre-requisite course. For this reason, general chemistry is widely considered as a gateway course for students pursuing science, engineering, or medical careers. It is wise for you to take general chemistry courses as early as possible if you are in these fields. ALEKS placements are designed to provide important evaluation not only for your chemistry skills but also for your problem-solving skills using mathematic knowledge commonly found in the general chemistry courses. The placement score will give you an important predictor for your chance to succeed in the general chemistry course you will enroll.

Therefore, you should take ALEKS placement as early as possible and as honest as possible. You should complete the placement as early as possible because you can register early when all the lecture and lab sections are still available to you. You should take it as honest as possible because you will have an accurate measure for your chance to succeed in the general chemistry courses. If the placement score indicates you are not ready, you can make a plan to remediate your deficiencies and prepare yourself for taking general chemistry in the future. The ALEKS placement can help you identify the deficiencies.

When should I take the placement?

You are advised to take the placement as early as possible. The placement exam is available online. Give yourself two hours (or less) for the placement test (which is called **knowledge check**). You should not be interrupted during the exam time. You also need a reliable internet connection for this knowledge check. Please note that the time limit for ALEKS placement are 2 hours (120 mins). **If you spent more than 120 minutes, your test scores will be voided.** Most students spent 60 – 75 minutes to complete the check.

Do I need to pay for the placement? What does it cost?

Taking this ALEKS placement is free. If you experience any problem about ALEKS, you can contact ALEKS support with the contact information printed in the end of this instruction.

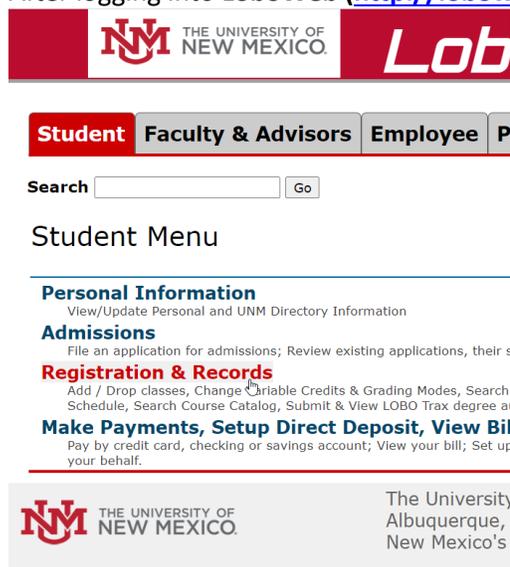
What are other policies I need to know about taking ALEKS Placement?

1. **You need to first complete the registration of ALEKS placement using UNM Student Number:** a 9-digit number and the **Registration code: Placement 1: GXJCH-Q9HKN** or **Placement 2: 6M4QE-AAWQL**. Detail instruction about registration can be found here.

- All ALEKS knowledge checks (called CHECKS in this document) must be done within 120 minutes without interruption or external help. Taking any CHECKS **beyond the time limit will void the result.**
- You must not look up information from a person, a note, a book, a webpage, or an internet search while taking the CHECKS. **Doing so will void the result.**
- Use the calculator and periodic table provided by ALEKS if needed. No other calculator or periodic table is allowed. **Any violation will void the result.**
- You must not record or copy assessment questions in any form. **Any violation will void the result.**
- The final CHECKS (which is optional) cannot be taken within 7 days of the initial CHECK. Practice of ALEKS topics is required for taking the final CHECKS. **Taking final CHECKS without a record of practicing ALEKS topics will void the placement result.** The second final CHECKS may be taken 7 days after the first final CHECKS. All CHECKS must be taken before the end of 21th day after the registration.

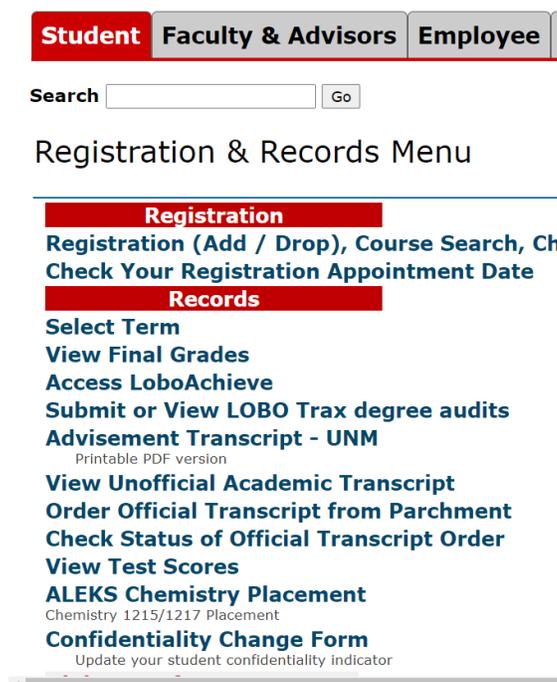
Registration for ALEKS Chemistry Placement ([more information](#))

- After logging into LoboWeb (<http://loboweb.unm.edu>), under **Student** tab, **Registration & Records**,



The screenshot shows the LoboWeb interface for a student. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the UNM logo and the text "THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO" and "Lobo". Below this is a menu with tabs for "Student", "Faculty & Advisors", "Employee", and "P". A search bar is present with a "Go" button. The "Student Menu" is expanded, showing several options: "Personal Information" (View/Update Personal and UNM Directory Information), "Admissions" (File an application for admissions; Review existing applications, their s), "Registration & Records" (Add / Drop classes, Change Variable Credits & Grading Modes, Search Schedule, Search Course Catalog, Submit & View LOBO Trax degree at), "Make Payments, Setup Direct Deposit, View Bil" (Pay by credit card, checking or savings account; View your bill; Set up your behalf).

you can find "ALEKS Chemistry Placement" item.



The screenshot shows the "Registration & Records Menu" in LoboWeb. It features a navigation bar with "Student", "Faculty & Advisors", and "Employee" tabs. A search bar with a "Go" button is at the top. The menu is divided into two main sections: "Registration" and "Records". Under "Registration", there are links for "Registration (Add / Drop), Course Search, Ch", "Check Your Registration Appointment Date", "Select Term", "View Final Grades", "Access LoboAchieve", "Submit or View LOBO Trax degree audits", "Advisement Transcript - UNM" (with a link to a printable PDF version), "View Unofficial Academic Transcript", "Order Official Transcript from Parchment", "Check Status of Official Transcript Order", "View Test Scores", "ALEKS Chemistry Placement" (with a link to Chemistry 1215/1217 Placement), and "Confidentiality Change Form" (with a link to update your student confidentiality indicator).

3. You can click on the ALEKS Chemistry Placement” link to find the short instruction about the placement. If you have gained a thorough understanding about the placement from this instruction, you can skip the short instruction.



ALEKS Chemistry Placement #1 and #2

[+ More information about the ALEKS Placement tests](#)

[ALEKS Single Sign-On](#)

Chemistry Placement Exam #1

| Student Name | Student ID | Reason for Knowledge Check |
|------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| No records found | | |

4. To access the placement directly, you can follow the “ALEKS Single Sign-On” link to enter ALEKS site and register for Chemistry Placement.



ALEKS Chemistry Placement #1 and #2

[+ More information about the ALEKS Placement tests](#)

[ALEKS Single Sign-On](#)

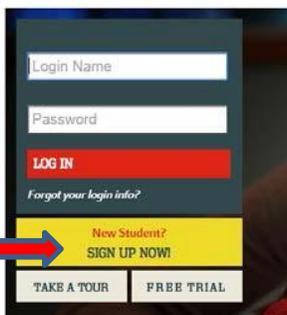
Chemistry Placement Exam #1

| Student Name | Student ID | Reason for Knowledge Check |
|------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| No records found | | |

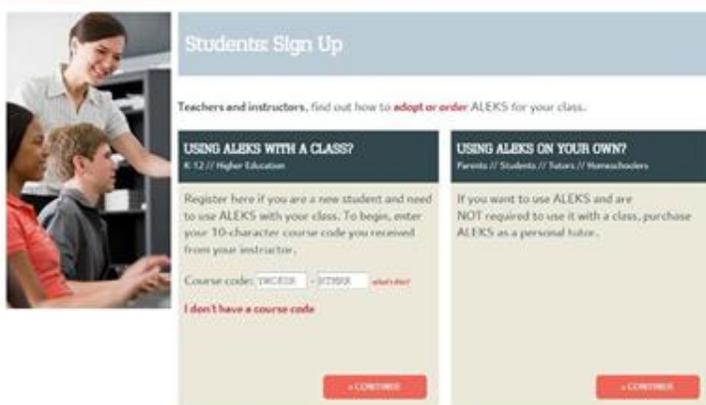
5. Click on SIGN UP NOW! And enter the Course code you see below.



WHAT IS ALEKS? COURSE PRODUCTS HIGH



Enter Course Code: **GXJCH-Q9HKN** for placement 1 or **6M4QE-AAWQL** for placement 2.



6. Confirm you're in the right course.

CONFIRM ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

You are about to register to use ALEKS in the following course. Please check the course details carefully. If the information is correct, click "Continue." If the information is incorrect, click "modify" to enter another course code.

Course: General Chemistry Placement 1 (or 2) 2021
Subject: Preparation for General Chemistry
Instructor: Prof. Ho
School: University of New Mexico--Upgrade [\(Modify\)](#)

» CONTINUE

7. Fill out the student information page (Make sure you enter the correct **UNM Banner ID (xxxxxxxx)** as your ID number. Otherwise, your placement might not be reported correctly, or at all.)
8. Take the Initial Knowledge Check ([detailed tutorial](#))
- You will be asked to solve about 20-30 problems (this will take you anywhere from 30 to 90 minutes – at any time you can logout and log back on, it will keep your place). It is recommended you have sufficient time to answer all questions all at once. You'll get **no help at all, nor should you try to find any**. If you were found using any form of external help when taking this placement, the placement result will be nullified and you will be reported to the Dean of Student Office for misconduct.
 - IMPORTANT NOTE: You CANNOT use more than 120 minutes (2 hours) to complete the knowledge checks. If you spend more than the above time limit, your score will not be counted, and your placement will be voided.**
9. Test result
- You need to the minimum score (greater than 30% for CHEM 1215 or CHEM 1217). If your initial assessment has met the requirements for the course you want to register, you are done with the placement.
 - If your initial assessment is 10% or lower, you can exit the placement and are strongly recommended to take CHEM 1105 first. You can register into the summer section starting in July.
 - If your initial check is in between 10% and 30% for CHEM 1215, you can continue to practice ALEKS topics ([detailed tutorial](#)) to increase the score for meeting the minimal requirement for your course (item 7) A). You have up to three weeks (21 days) of grace period to learn ALEKS chemistry topics
 - During the practice period, you can work on the “learning mode” of ALEKS. Progress checks will be prompted by ALEKS after certain number of topics learned during the learning mode. You do not have to take the progress checks. However, taking progress checks can help you prepare for the final check.
 - When you take the final check is determined by you ([detailed tutorial](#)). However, the first final check must be 7 days after your initial check. You are expected to learn as many ALEKS topics as possible before you take your final check. **Taking any final knowledge check without a record of practicing ALEKS topics will automatically void the placement result.** You only have two chances for the final check. Do not take the check unless you have learned enough number of topics to give you the minimum score. You can find the final checks under “assignments” section of the ALEKS Placement. A report of your final assessment can be generated after you complete it ([detailed tutorial](#)). Bring your final ALEKS report to your advisor to obtain the override for the registration of CHEM 1215 and 1215L if you see registration errors.
 - If you cannot meet the minimal requirements by the end of the three weeks from when you start the placement, you can register into CHEM 1105 and use the CR or C or better grade to register.

- The requirement for Placement 2 is the same as that for placement 1. However, CHEM 1105 is not appropriate for students who have done the CHEM 1215/1215L. If you cannot receive a minimum score from ALEKS Placement 2, you do not have the required chemistry knowledge to take CHEM 1225 and 1225L. You should take CHEM 1215 and 1215L first and obtain a grade of C or better from both courses before taking 1225 and 1225L.

Having technical issues with accessing ALEKS?

Contact tech support at ALEKS, they are very helpful, accessible and prompt!

Phone: (714) 619-7090

Email: contact us at <http://support.aleks.com>

Hours (Eastern Standard)

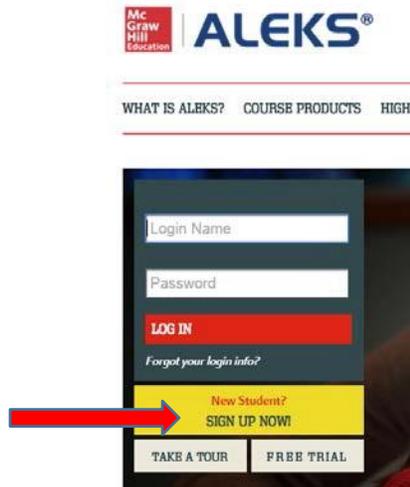
Sunday, 4:00 PM to 1:00 AM

Monday - Thursday, 7:00 AM to 1:00 AM

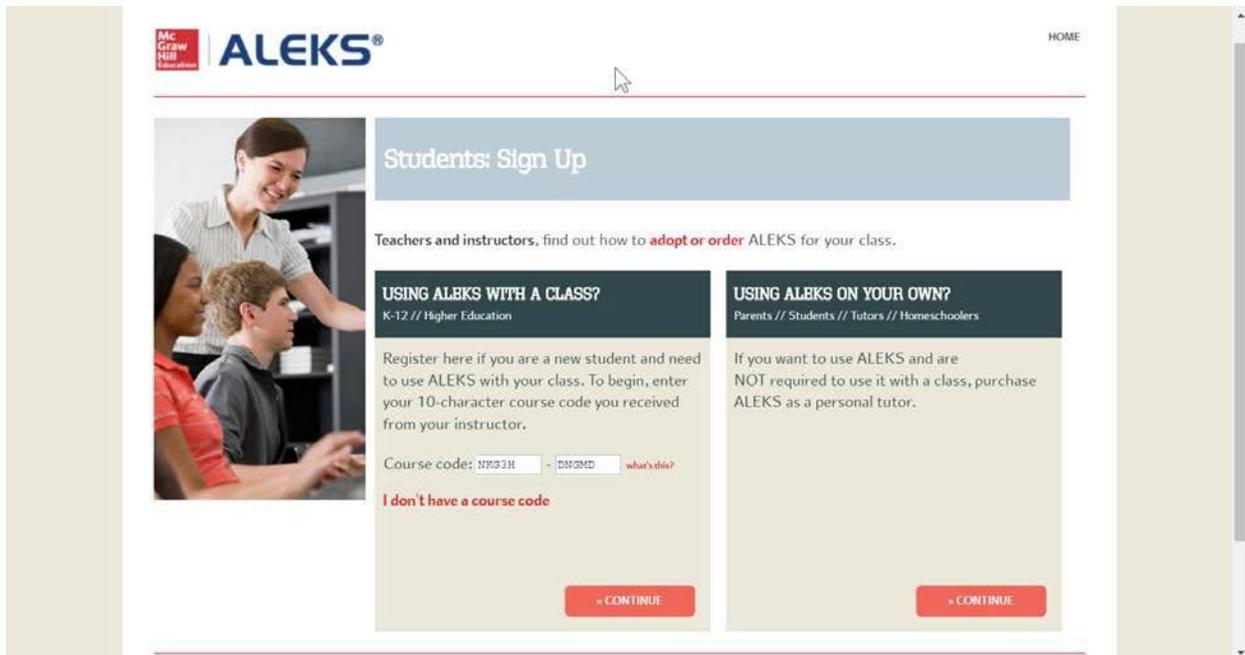
Friday, 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM

Registration

Go to <http://aleks.com>, and click on “sign up now!” as shown below.



You will see the following window; enter the course code: **GXJCH-Q9HKN**, and click on “Continue”



You will see the following confirmation:



1 CONFIRM
COURSE CODE

2 ACCOUNT
STATUS

3 STUDENT
INFORMATION

4 ACCOUNT
CREATION

5 REGISTRATION
COMPLETE

CONFIRM ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

You are about to register to use ALEKS in the following course. Please check the course details carefully. If the information is correct, click "Continue." If the information is incorrect, click "modify" to enter another course code.

Course: General Chemistry Placement 1 - 2020
Subject: Preparation for General Chemistry
Instructor: Prof. Ho
School: University of New Mexico ([Modify](#))

» CONTINUE

If you continue, you will see



1 CONFIRM
COURSE CODE

2 ACCOUNT
STATUS

3 STUDENT
INFORMATION

4 ACCOUNT
CREATION

5 REGISTRATION
COMPLETE

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.

» CONTINUE

If you have an ALEKS account, choose the second option and you can skip the step for personal information. If you do not have an ALEKS account before, choose the first option. Once you select your option, click on "continue". The following is the form you need to fill out if you choose option 1.



- 1 CONFIRM COURSE CODE
- 2 ACCOUNT STATUS
- 3 **STUDENT INFORMATION**
- 4 ACCOUNT CREATION
- 5 REGISTRATION COMPLETE

STUDENT REGISTRATION: STUDENT INFORMATION

Fields marked with "*" are required.

Enter Your Personal Information

First Name: *

Middle Initial:

Last Name: *

Enter Your E-mail Address

We will use this email to send you your ALEKS login name and password, and messages for this class.

E-mail: *

Example: MyName@schoolmail.edu

Choose a Password

You will see the following confirmation after completing registration. In the example, a student named "General Chemistry" has registered with a login name: GCHEMISTRY. ALEKS will assign you a login name and you need to write it down together with your password for your record.



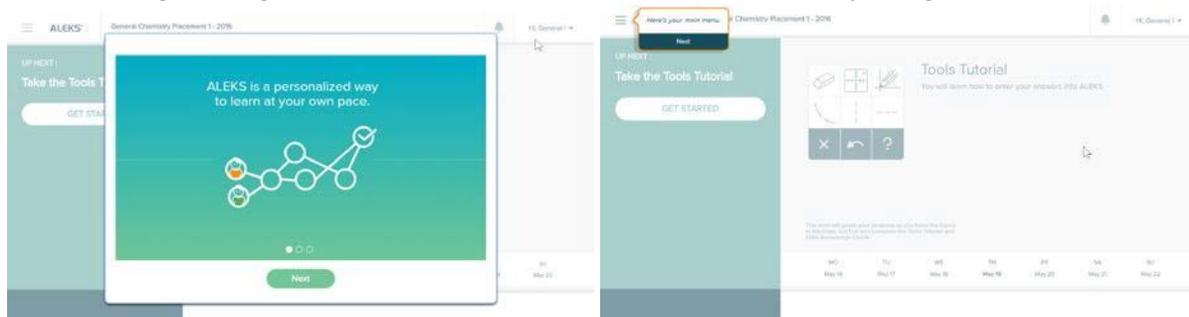
STUDENT REGISTRATION: REGISTRATION COMPLETE

Make sure to remember your login name and password. You will need them every time you log into ALEKS.

Your Login Name: GCHEMISTRY

Please click on "Continue".

You will go through a short tutorial for ALEKS if this is the first time you register for an ALEKS course.



You will then arrive at "initial Assessment" page next.

To go back to where you at [click here](#).

Initial Check

You can find the following page right after registration. Click on “START KNOWLEDGE CHECK” to start the initial check.

The initial assessment requires your full attention and will provide the first score for placement. Please give yourself 45 to 90 minutes to complete the check. You must not look for any external help such as asking friends or googling internet when answering ALEKS questions. The amount of time you spend in ALEKS for initial check will be recorded in the report so if you spend more than 120 minutes, your placement could be nullified.

The screenshot shows the ALEKS interface for the 'General Chemistry Placement 1 - 2016'. On the left, a green sidebar contains the text 'UP NEXT : Initial Knowledge Check' and a large white button labeled 'START KNOWLEDGE CHECK'. On the right, a white box features the text 'Initial Knowledge Check' in orange, followed by the instruction: 'To personalize ALEKS for you, we need to see what you already know in this class.'

You will see a short tutorial to explain how initial check is set up and where to find information.

The screenshot shows a tutorial window titled 'Initial Knowledge Check' with a 'General' dropdown menu. The main content area displays a sample question: 'Here's an example of what's to come.' Below this is a table with columns for 'element', 'oxidation state', and 'type of ion'. The table lists elements like sodium, calcium, and sulfur with their respective oxidation states and ion types. A calculator icon is visible next to the table. Two callout boxes provide instructions: 'Choose I Don't Know only if you don't know how to solve the problem.' and 'You can use the ALEKS calculator when it appears.' At the bottom of the sample question area, there are buttons for 'I don't know' and 'answer'. A 'SAMPLE' watermark is visible in the background.

You will answer questions one at a time until you finish all the questions. Once you finish, you will be given the report for your initial check. You can download the report from Main Menu under report. See the tutorial for Report section for detail.

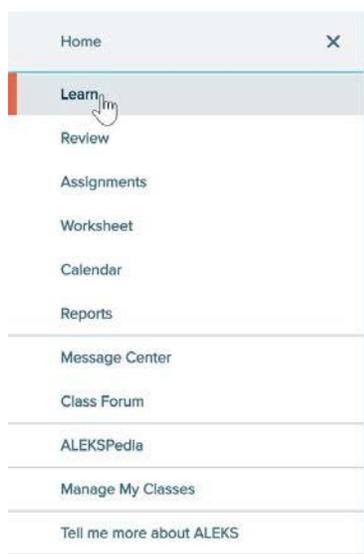
To go back to where you are [click here.](#)

To Practice ALEKS

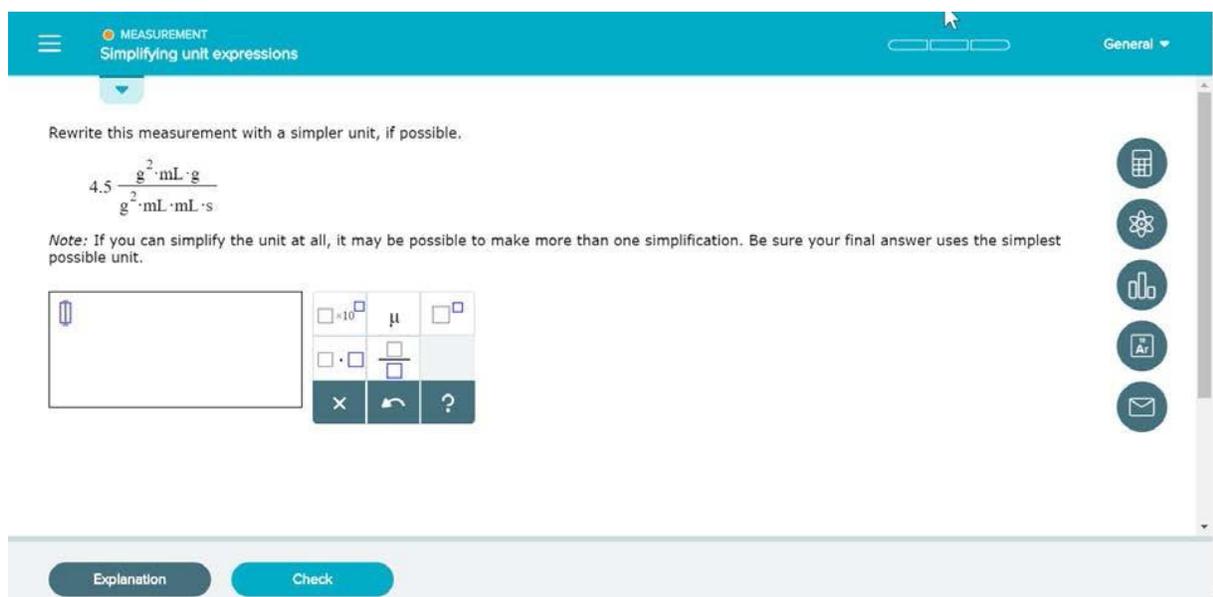
You need to locate the ALEKS main menu from the upper left corner of the website, immediate left to ALEKS logo:



A single click to the menu sign will bring out a dropdown list as shown below. Click on “Learn” to enter the learning mode.



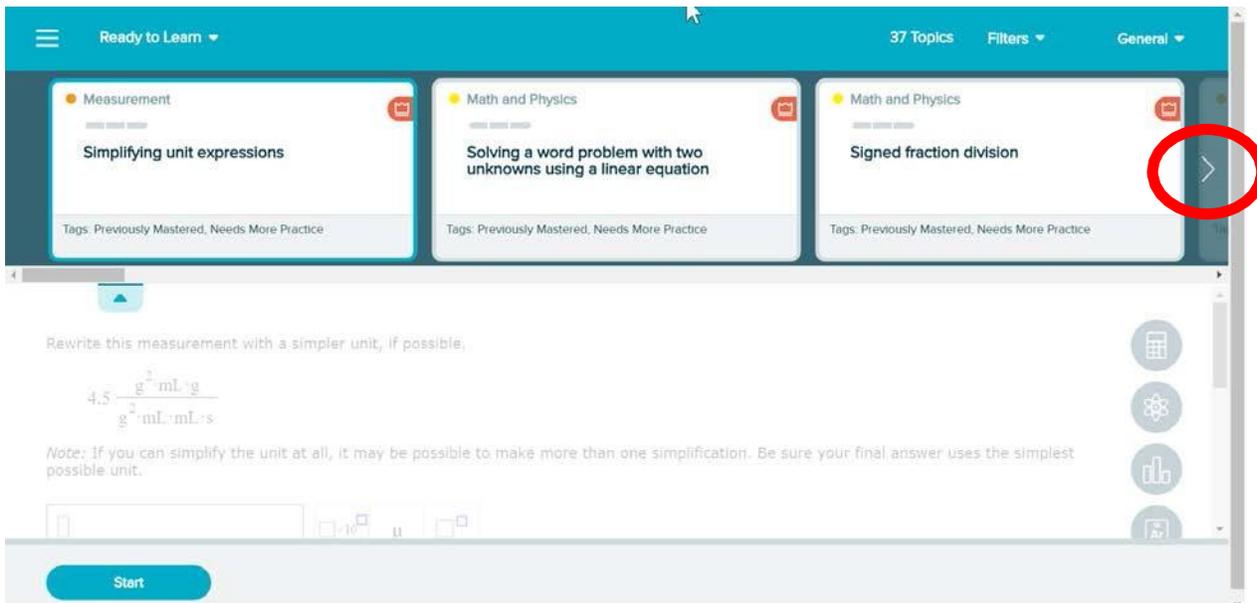
You will be seeing the first question ALEKS provides from the pool of questions you are ready to learn according to initial check.

The image shows a screenshot of the ALEKS learning interface. The top navigation bar is teal and contains the text "MEASUREMENT Simplifying unit expressions" and "General". The main content area displays the problem: "Rewrite this measurement with a simpler unit, if possible." followed by the expression $4.5 \frac{\text{g}^2 \cdot \text{mL} \cdot \text{g}}{\text{g}^2 \cdot \text{mL} \cdot \text{mL} \cdot \text{s}}$. A note below the expression states: "Note: If you can simplify the unit at all, it may be possible to make more than one simplification. Be sure your final answer uses the simplest possible unit." Below the note is an input field with a vertical bar icon and a keypad with buttons for $\times 10^{\square}$, μ , \square , $\square \cdot \square$, $\frac{\square}{\square}$, \square , \times , \leftarrow , and $?$. On the right side of the interface, there is a vertical toolbar with icons for a calculator, a search icon, a bar chart, a formula editor, and an envelope icon. At the bottom of the interface, there are two buttons: "Explanation" and "Check".

You can change the question you practice anytime by clicking on the arrow located near the ALEKS main menu as shown below:

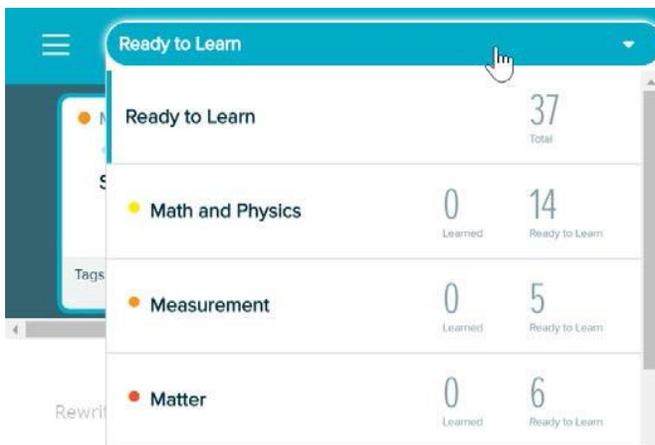


You will then see all categories of questions you can answer as shown below:

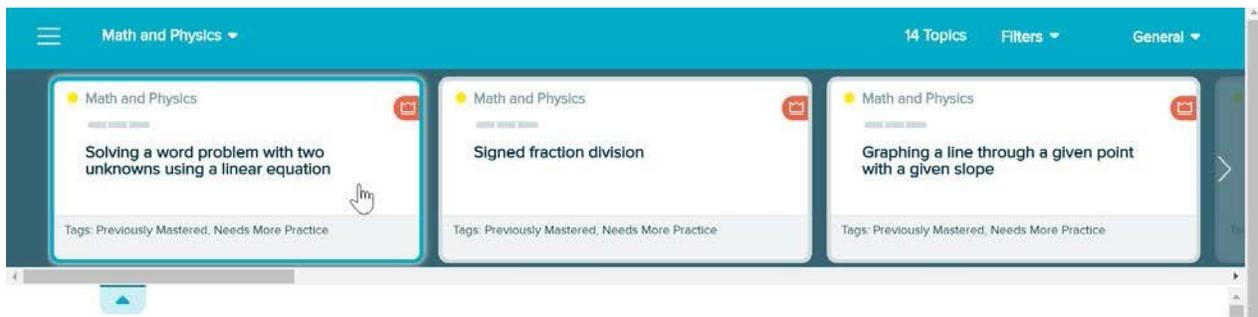
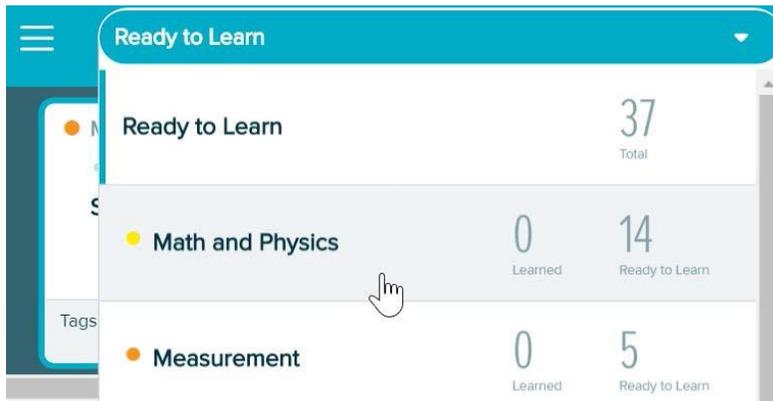


You can scroll to the right to see all available questions for you (red circle) and choose one to answer by double clicking on the question, followed by the “Start” button.

You can also brows all categories of available questions by clicking on the small arrow right to “Ready to Learn” **Ready to Learn** as shown in the example above.



You can select any category you want to practice now by a single click and all the ready to learn questions will be listed.



You can open and close the question list any time by clicking on the  arrow.

When practicing questions, you can click on 'Explanation' button to get tutorial information.

However, to maximize your learning, do not read the explanation before you try to answer it by yourself. Thinking through the question by yourself even you are wrong can make your learning much more effective.

Each question you practice will be changed to "Learned" after you can correctly answer two or three more questions of the same topic. The "earned questions" will be changed to "Mastered" after a progress assessment. ALEKS will prompt you for a progress assessment periodically when you have learned 16-20 topics. You can decide if you want to take the progress assessment right away. You can delay taking it, but it is a good way to evaluate how many topics (and percentage) you have mastered and whether all topics you learned still stay in you.

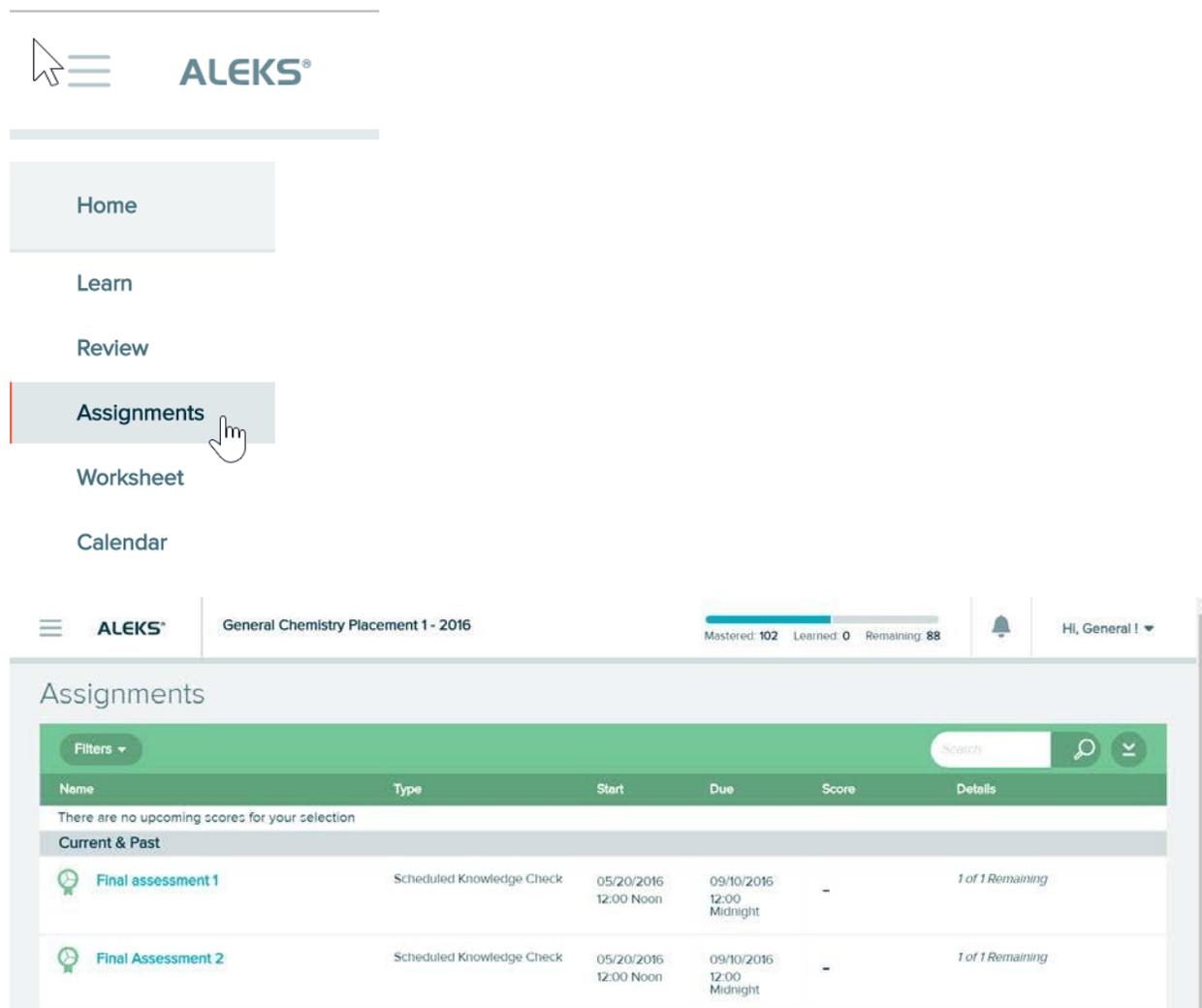
When you see the number of topics you mastered from a progress assessment exceeds the minimal requirement for your course, it is time for you to take the final assessment to finish the placement.

Do not take final assessment if you do not think you have cumulated enough number of topics or percentage for the requirement. You only have two chances to take the final assessments. Do not waste your chance.

Go back to where you at [click here](#).

To Take the Final Assessment

Go to ALEKS main menu. Select “Assignments” item from the drop down list. You will see two final assessments in the following page. You only have two chances to take the final assessment. Make sure you want to do it now.



The screenshot shows the ALEKS main menu on the left with the 'Assignments' option highlighted. The main content area displays the 'Assignments' page for 'General Chemistry Placement 1 - 2016'. At the top right, a progress bar shows 'Mastered: 102', 'Learned: 0', and 'Remaining: 88'. Below the progress bar, a table lists two final assessments:

| Name | Type | Start | Due | Score | Details |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------|------------------|
| Final assessment 1 | Scheduled Knowledge Check | 05/20/2016 12:00 Noon | 09/10/2016 12:00 Midnight | - | 1 of 1 Remaining |
| Final Assessment 2 | Scheduled Knowledge Check | 05/20/2016 12:00 Noon | 09/10/2016 12:00 Midnight | - | 1 of 1 Remaining |

Choose the “Final Assessment 1” if this is the first time you take the final assessment. If you have already taken the final assessment once, choose “Final Assessment 2”. You need to double click on the selected assessment to enter the test.

The final assessment is closed book, closed note, and accessing internet during the assessment is prohibited. You should not use any form of external help when answering assessment questions. You can use information provided by ALEKS such as calculator, periodic table, constants, etc. Make yourself fully concentrated on the assessment questions and do not interrupt your assessment before you complete it.

You can take as much time as you need to finish it. The amount of time you use will be recorded in the report. Good luck!

It's time for a Knowledge Check.



Why am I getting this Knowledge Check?
Your instructor assigned this Knowledge Check.

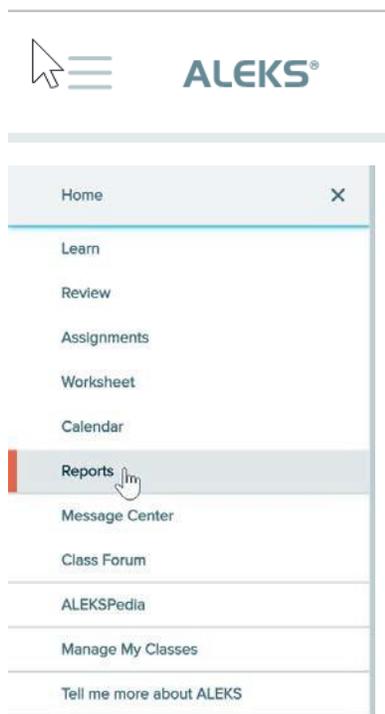
[Return to Home](#)

[Start Knowledge Check](#)

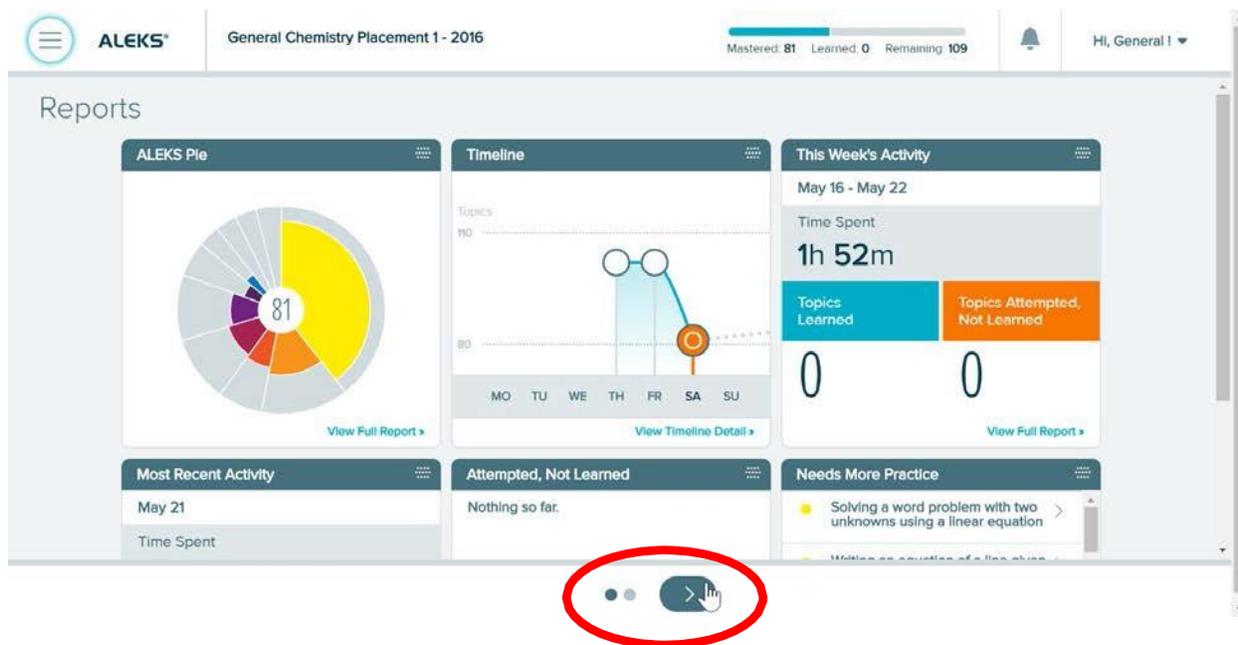
To go back to where you at [click here](#)

To Generate a Report for Chemistry Placement

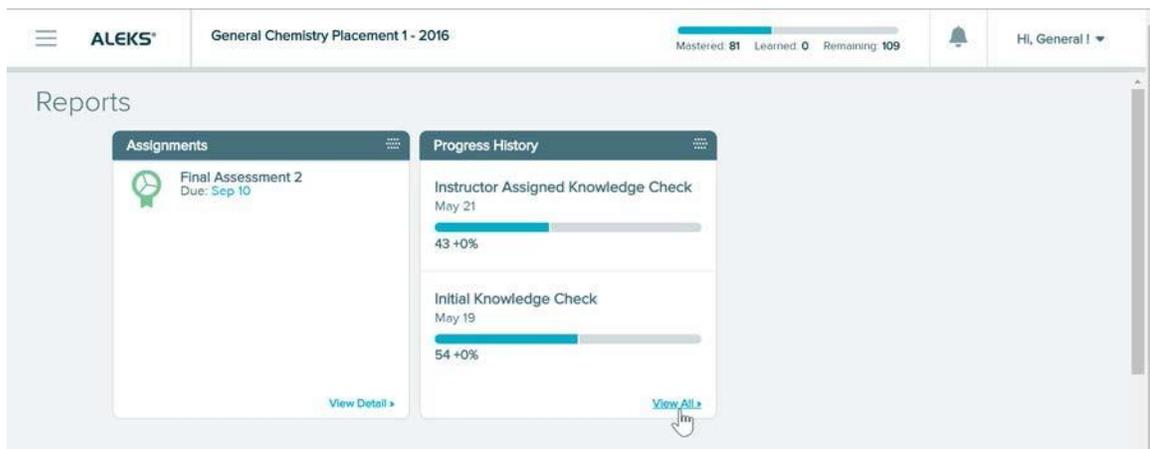
Go to ALEKS main menu and select "Reports".



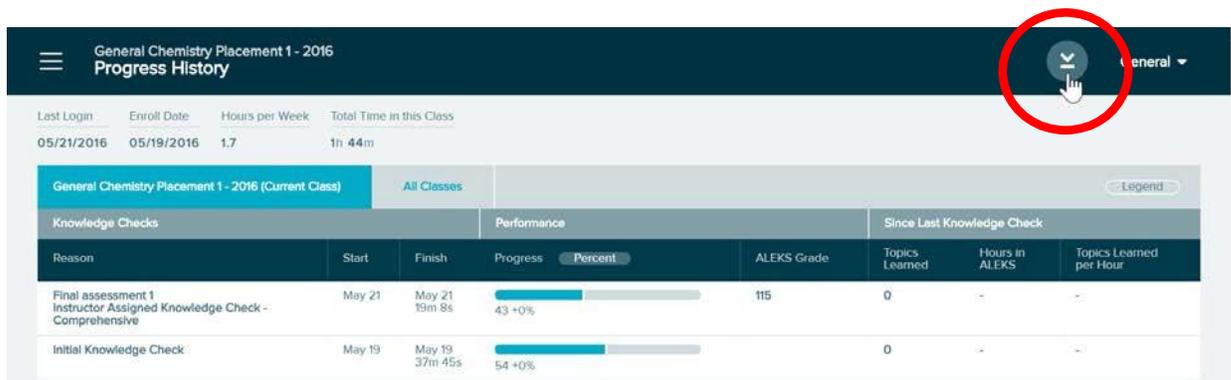
You will see a collection of different types of report listed. Scroll to the next page by clicking on the right arrow (red circle).



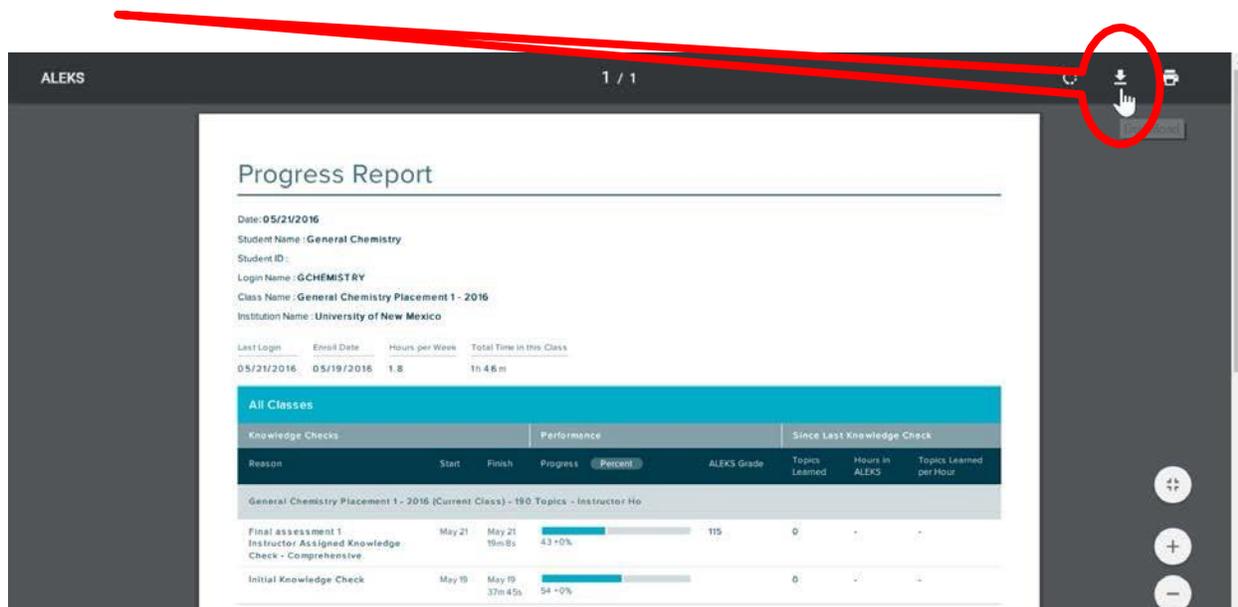
You will see all assessment results listed under "Progress History" window.



By clicking on “View All”, you can see the detail of all assessments (initial and final). To download the report, click on the download sign circled in red in the figure below:



The report will be shown in the next window. You can download the pdf file by clicking on the download logo



This report is the official certification of your placement. Under “ALEKS grade” you can see the course you are placed in.

To go back to where you are at [click here](#).