

A Case Study of Alternative Learning System Graduates Enrolled in Pangasinan State University, Lingayen Campus

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Abstract – Educational for all is the main goal of the Philippine government which encompasses all sectors of the society thus the country has implemented a wide concept of education which involves: outcomes based - rather than input-oriented whether the delivery of this concept is formal, non-formal and informal education; One type of education is the non- formal education which is Alternative Learning System. This type of program caters to those who cannot access formal education but want to pursue their studies as well as those adults who want to study again in order to achieve basic functional literacy. Alternative Learning System is a ladderized, modular non-formal education program in the Philippines for dropouts in elementary and secondary schools, out-of-school youths, non-readers, working Filipinos and even senior citizens. It is part of the education system of the Philippines as an alternative to the regular classroom studies requires students to choose schedules according to their choice and availability. The study used case study as a method in collecting data. Given the qualitative nature of the research, it is deemed to be the best way to capture the details of the study. Coordination with the Guidance Office and Registrar's Office is properly done before the conduct of the study. In the study 6 out of 40 students listed in the registrar's office have confirmed that they are graduates of alternative learning system program. Furthermore Aliases are used in order to protect the identity of the respondents since their profile and personal information are gathered.

Keywords – Alternative Learning System, Case Study, Lingayen, Pangasinan State University

INTRODUCTION

An alternative way of learning is formulated by the Department of Education to address the increasing number of the out-of school youth and adults. Alternative Learning System is one way to decrease the mounting number of out of school youth in the country. These underprivileged children belongs to families who are under the poverty thresh hold thus, cannot afford to sustained the basic needs (clothes, shelter, food and education) DepEd Memo No. 101 states that the successful students can enroll in the secondary schools and can obtain technical or vocational courses and can take courses that are four, or five years to take is allowed by the of the Commission on Higher Education (Taruc, 2013). Alternative Learning System (ALS) is a learning system offers a practical option to the existing formal instruction. In instances that one does not have or cannot access formal education in schools, ALS is the alternative choice of a learner. The Continuing Education- Accreditation and Equivalency (A&E) program is one of the programs of Alternative Learning System wherein it provides a certification to the learns

who are out-of-school children, youth and adults who were unable to go to a formal school (Lazaro, 2015).

The motivation that drives learners in pursuing continuous learning is the vision that an opportunity will be open upon finishing alternative learning program (VALEZA et.al, 2017) on the other hand Alternative Learning System is a non- traditional education system that includes approaches to teaching and learning separate from that offered by the traditional educational system. One form of the ALS implemented in the country is the Expanded Tertiary Education Equivalency and Accreditation Program or commonly known as ETEEAP. It is a comprehensive program of identifying, assessing, validating, and assigning equivalent college level learning for prior learning from formal, non- formal and informal training and relevant work experiences toward the final granting of appropriate academic degree (Casiple, 2014),

Out of school youth who were not able to continue their studies after a long period of time are given a chance on ALS Accreditation and Equivalency (A&E) this lessen the number of school dropouts to complete their

elementary and high school education outside the formal school. (Parugpug, 2014) When an out of school youth is not interested in what is being taught and lured with employment this caused the learners to drop in the program as stated in the study of Atilano et.al. (2016).

Rahman et.al (2010), stated in their study that neo-literates are the once who are to be the focus of the government wherein this scheme provides a comprehensive range of appropriate and effective opportunities for the life-long learning for all the neoliterate adults and other interested to improve their own conditions and willing to join the program for promotion of their interest and creation of a learning society. Academic growth of students is a means of preparing the student to pursue future education. ALS teachers train the students academically through different strategies of teaching in preparation of the students for the A & E exam. Als teachers focus on the strands of learning developed by the DepEd: problem-solving and critical thinking skills, communication skills and development of self and a sense of community. These strands feed directly into five academic subjects: math, English, science, Filipino, and history. (Sanchez, 2015)

According to Fernandez (2013) the gender and educational background of the teachers handling alternative classes do not have direct relationship thus students are enrolled to this program can acquire knowledge properly on the other hand the distance and gender of the learner has an effect to the students in their learning possess

In the country sexual and reproduction health is emphasize among the youth today since it essential in their growth and development. It plays an important role on the out of school youth ability to learned and become responsible, productive and can adjust to the changing environment of our society. Understanding the reproductive health of the learners is considered in the conduct of alternative classes to the out of school youth is put into priority and the incorporation of Adolescent Reproductive Health Education Program is effective. Ronnel Dela Rosa (2015)

The interview with the students using a prepared format/ interview of schedule for collection of data was conducted. The student's reasons why the students took Alternative Learning System, their academic performance during their first year and the problems they encountered and adjustments they have done to cope were taken from key informants. The students are

the key informants of the study. Focused or small group discussions were used to validate information collected from the interview.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

This study aimed to know the reasons why the students took Alternative Learning System as their stepping stone in enrolling college and to know their academic performance during their first year in tertiary level and lastly the problems they encountered and adjustments they have done to cope with the students who have experienced formal schooling.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The respondents of the study are students who are currently enrolled in Pangasinan State University with the help of the Campus registrar to identify students who have undergone Alternative Learning System as their entry point in entering college. The interview with the students using a prepared format/ interview of schedule for collection of data was conducted. The student's reasons why the students took Alternative Learning System, their academic performance during their first year and the problems they encountered and adjustments they have done to cope were taken from key informants. The students are the key informants of the study. Focused or small group discussions were used to validate information collected from the interview.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the findings, two out of six respondents stopped their schooling because of financial problem. There are two respondents who encountered peer pressure and due to the influenced by their friends. Three out of six respondents said that they did not want to undergo K-12 program and there is one respondent who experienced lack of interest in schooling. While one of the respondents tried to enroll in ALS Program. Four out of six respondents were encouraged by their teacher to take up ALS and the two respondents were encouraged by their mother.

The researchers found out that, the duration of meetings of the ALS Graduates are not the same. Two out of six respondents attended ALS classes three times a week while the three respondents are once a week and there is only one respondent who attended four times a week. One respondent experienced to speak in front of his co-learners. All respondents stated that their teachers are giving module. But, they are not discussing

it very well. Five out of six respondents stated that they only learned basic knowledge in five learning areas of ALS program. When it comes to their learning experiences, the researchers found out that all respondents improved their essay writing skills. And one of them enhanced his self- confidence. Due to the way of teaching, there are four out of six respondents who acquired self-study skills, advance reading and researching. There are three respondents who did not found difficulty on taking up ALS Program. The other two respondents found difficulty on writing an essay and lastly, one respondent experienced difficulty in her subjects because she forgot her learning since she stopped within three years.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Gley, 22 years old, a second year student taking Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management. She lives in Bacayaw Sur, Dagupan City. Her father works as electrician while her mother takes good care of the house hold chores. Gley is the seventh child among eleven children of her parents. She stopped her schooling when she was in third year high school because of peer pressure and due to financial problem since majority of her siblings are in school thus her parents cannot provide support in terms of her schooling thus she decided to stop. Gley was encouraged by her former teacher and her friend who is enrolled in alternative learning system. On the other hand her mother pushed her to continue her studies in order for her to achieve her dreams in life while enrolled on the said program she encountered difficulty since it's been three years since she stopped her schooling. She expressed that recalling the knowledge that she had learned for the past years is difficult and she even forgot some of this information but this situation did not lessen her eagerness to learn she help herself by doing advance reading and read carefully the module that was given by her teacher. Gley graduated with honor due to her perseverance and willingness to learn. The Academic Performance of Gley during her first semester shows that she experienced difficulty as shows in her grade in Programming 1 and Study and Thinking Skills which is 2.75 which is equivalent to 76.50, Algebra with a rating of 2.25 which is equivalent to 82.50, Fundamentals of IT with a rating of 2.00 which is equivalent to 85.50. On the part of Experiences and Difficulties during her stay on college she expressed that she experienced bullying from her

classmates when they learned that she is a graduate of alternative learning system but instead of

Francis is 18 years old, 2nd year student of Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management at Pangasinan State University. He is the youngest among the four children of his parents. His family belongs to a middle class. His father is a businessman, an owner of water station at Libsong West, Lingayen Pangasinan while his mother is a beautician in Hanzz Salon. According to him, the income of his family is enough to meet all their basic needs. According to Francis he was encouraged by his teacher to take the examination for Alternative learning system since his age qualifies also on the said examination. On the other hand Francis does not like to undergo K-12 thus he grabs the opportunity to be accelerated. He narrated that during his stay in the program he and his friends are being reviewed by their ALS teacher once a week, one to two hours. Francis said that he learned a lot of things when he took up ALS such as leadership. His teacher taught them how to speak in front of the people that enhanced his self- confidence. He also learned how to write an essay and this is the most important lesson he acquired during his ALS session. According to him, he also learned about the basic knowledge in History, Mathematics, Science and English. He passed the examination year 2011. Then he enrolled in (PNHS) Pangasinan National High School. He experienced difficulties in his subjects, Science and Mathematics. According to him, when it comes in solving a problem using formula, he did not know how to solve it. In order to cope with this problem, he asked his teacher to help him by means of teaching him alone. He went to the office of his teacher during vacant period. He also sought help to his cousin. He mentioned that his first entry in high school is just normal since he has a companion who enrolled in his school, who is also an ALS passer.

While his academic performance based on Francis report of rating last year second semester and this year first semester rating, he can compete with regular student since he undergone formal schooling in his secondary level. His last year (2015-2016) second semester rating indicate that he excelled in all of his subjects especially in "Komunikasyonsa Akademikong Filipino" with a rating of 1.25, and Algebra with the rating of 1.75. On the other hand, his rating this year (2016-2017) first semester implies that he is well-adjusted in his tertiary level. He took up two subjects only which is the Philippine History and Literature of the Philippines, since he is an irregular student. He

excelled in his Philippine History subject with a rating of 1.75 which is equivalent to 88.50 while in his Literature of the Philippines subject he got a 2.25 rating equivalent to 82.50. On the other hand during his college life he experiences difficulties as ALS graduate when he enrolled at University of Pangasinan, he took up Bachelor of Science in Tourism. He experienced difficulty to make friends with others because many of his classmates don't like him. He did not know the reason why so he decided to be quiet. He transferred because he does not have friends and his course is too expensive. He decided to transfer in Pangasinan State University-Lingayen Campus on second semester. He took up BS HM since it is related in Tourism which he really likes. He is an irregular student. But he said that he also found difficulty in his studies because his course is also expensive and sometimes, he experienced financial problem. All the materials needed in their practicum were provided in their own. He told that all requirements in his minor subjects should be submitted at once. He also found difficulty in Mathematics subject. Lastly his adjustments and coping mechanisms were the following :Francis easily adjusted in his new school because he had a friend who is also studying in PSU so he did not became loner and met a lot of friends, his classmates. When it comes to his study, He told that he easily understand their lessons since he undergo formal schooling in high school. But Francis told that he's been always late in their class. Though he believed in one quotation which is "*It's better to be late than being absent*". He's doing advanced reading, self-study, researching and sometimes he seek help to his cousin when he did not understand the lessons they had tackled in order for him to easily compete in the class.

For the ase of Angel, 19 years old and currently enrolled as first year student in Pangasinan State University-Lingayen Campus taking up Bachelor of Science in Information Technology. She lives in Sitio Mapita, Barangay Laoag, AguilarPangasinan. She is the youngest among the five children of her parents. She belongs to a middle class family. Her father is a farmer while her mother is a housekeeper. According to her, they are also supported by her siblings in their daily expenses because they are working abroad. According to Angel, she stopped schooling when she was on third year high school, year 2013, due to lack of interest in schooling and because she did not want to undergo in the upcoming K-12 Program of Department of Education. She was encouraged by a friend to undergo Non-Formal Education or the Alternative Learning

System of Department of Education. She decided to try it and decided to enroll at the said Program. Angel enrolled ALS at Aguilar Integrated School. They were met by their teacher every two hours in one week. Every meeting, their ALS facilitator gave modules and it depends on them what strategies they used to understand the lesson on their own .She found it challenging because their teacher asked them what they have learned in the module the next day. According to Angel, she acquired some skills and strategies in the Program like she learned how to study on her own, do advanced reading and researching. She also experienced difficulty in writing essay because according to her, she's not good in essay writing but she is thankful because she learned how to make a simple and accurate essay. After she took up the A&E Test, Angel luckily passed the examination. The academic performance of angel ALS Graduates during First Semester Based on her grades in first semester school year 2016- 2017, Angel had poor performance in her two subjects, Programming 1 and Study and Thinking Skills. She got 2.75 which is equivalent to 76.50. According to her, Angel found difficulty in understanding English language. She only learned basic grammar in ALS Program. She also experienced difficulty when it comes to her Algebra subject. She got 2.25 which is equivalent to 82.50. Even though she only learned basic knowledge in Math when she took up ALS, she is determined to understand their lesson to cope up with her subject. While her subject in IT fundamentals, she got 2.00 which is equivalent to 85.50. She said that in this subject she learned easily because she listen attentively to her teacher and asked question when she has query. Her experiences and difficulties of ALS Graduates upon entering tertiary level is good according to her because she is treated normally by her classmates and her instructor. She did not experience any bullying. In order for her to adjust and cope up with her difficulties, seeking help in her instructors and friends are one of her strategies. She also did advance reading and self- study. Angel socialized to her classmate normally as the other do.

Anika, 24 years old , is a third year student currently enrolled in Pangasinan State University, Lingayen Campus taking up Bachelor of Science in Social Work. She lives in Salvacion Street, Maniboc, Lingayen, Pangasinan. Both of her parents are vendor because they have their own business. The researcher asked what their business is but she refused to answer it. According to her, they encountered difficult problems

when her father started to have a mistress. She stopped her schooling after she graduated in elementary level with honor (Salutatorian). When her father cohabited with another woman, their business was bankrupt because he used the money for her mistress. In 2004, her father left them and lives with his mistress. At the same time, her mother also suffering from illness so Anika was forced to stop her schooling. She left school for three years because of financial constraints and family problem. Anika told that her siblings are the one who supported their needs since her father left. According to her, for three years of not studying, she became a bystander. She did not work because she needs to take care of her other siblings. At the age of 16, she decided to go back in school and studied in high school at Pangasinan National High School. Anika was encouraged by her teacher Ma'am Myrna Tiangson to take ALS program. She grabbed the opportunity because she wanted to graduate immediately in high school. Anika narrated that when her teacher gave them a module, she studied it in her own. She attended once a week in their review session due to her own choice. She learned more on how to write an essay. She passed the A& E Test and obtained a diploma in the year 2010. After knowing the result of the examination, she decided not to finish her first year high school. The academic performance of Anika based on her grades in first semester school year 2016- 2017, she had good performance in her two subjects, Social Work Laws and Deviations in Human Behavior; she got 2.25 which is equivalent to 82.50. Anika told that she experienced difficulty in managing her time. Sometimes, she has no time for reviewing her lessons because of doing household chores and taking care of her child. Her performance in Logic and Social Philosophy was good because she got 2.00 which is equivalent to 85.00. In the year 2010, Anika decided to enroll in PSU but she stopped again because of financial problem. She worked for two years as a babysitter. In the year 2011, she got married at the age of 19 and started to raise her own family. She has one child and he is five years old. Her husband is a tricycle driver and he is the one who supported her expenses in school. According to her, the income of his husband is enough for their daily needs. She decided to take up tertiary education because she wanted to find a better job and have a good future for her family. She also wanted to help her mother. She enrolled again in 2014 and took up BS Mathematics. But, she shifted this course because he found difficulty in her subjects especially in Trigonometry and Calculus.

She chose BS Social Work in the second semester. According to her, she can compete with her classmates. She did not experience more difficulties in her subjects now. According to Anika, her adjustment in terms of academic when she took up her BS Math course is not that easy. She needs to seek help from her other classmates in order to understand more their lessons. She also did advance reading but unfortunately she did not continue her course because of difficulties. At present, she understands her lessons unlike her subjects in her first course. She stated that Mathematics subject is one of her difficulties because she only acquired basic knowledge when she took up ALS.

Oliver, 20 years old and a second year college student who is currently studying at Pangasinan State University taking up Bachelor of Science in Information Communication Technology. He lives in Lucao District, Dagupan City. He is the ninth child among the twelve children of his parents. His mother is a housewife while his father is a carpenter before, but as of now he stops working because he was stroked three times. Oliver belongs to a poor family. According to him, he stopped his schooling when he was in third year high school because of peer pressure and he wanted to work rather than to study. He took up a Vocational major in Food and Beverages Services in Extendicare Center Dagupan City for one year. Until his elementary teacher asked him if he had finished his studies and he was encouraged by the teacher to enroll in Alternative Learning System Program. Then he told the offer regarding the program to his parents and they pushed him to take the opportunity. In the year 2011, Oliver enrolled in ALS at the age of sixteen in Division City School Dagupan City. He said that, they attended the ALS class four times a week in a half day. They had given modules every meeting. According to him, their teacher did not discuss very well their lessons and it's up to them what techniques or strategies they will use in order to better understand the lessons. Based on his experience in ALS, he easily acquired some skills like self-study and advanced reading. He learned a lot in the subject Algebra and also essay writing. He always chose by his facilitator to discuss the lesson to his co-learners. According to Oliver, he became an outstanding student. The academic performance of Oliver based on his grades last first semester school year 2016-2017, Oliver had a poor performance in his two subjects which is General Physics (PHY.101) with a rating of 2.75 equivalent to 76.50 and Object Oriented Programming (IT. 202) with a rating of 3.00 equivalent

to 74.50 because he is struggling in managing his time between his study and work. Being a working student, he spent a lot of time in working rather than attending his class. However, Oliver excelled in his subject Accounting Principles with a rating of 1.75 which is equivalent to 88.50. After completing the ALS Program, he decided not to continue his schooling but he was convinced by their Pastor to pursue his college level. Since, his other church mates are also studying in PSU, he was motivated to study. His pastor offered him a scholarship, so he grabbed the opportunity. When he entered college level his first choice was Public Administration, but he failed the interview. At his second choice which is Education, he was not also accepted because it is not applicable for ALS passers. He ended up in Bachelor of Science in Information Communication Technology (BS ICT). But he was not always attending his class because he is a working student. He did not ask for help to his parents when it comes to financial. He asked an endorsement letter to the registrar's office in order for him not to drop his subjects. According to him, he experienced some difficulties especially in Statistics subject. According to him, his adjustment is just normal. He easily socialized with his classmates since he became a leader to their church. He was converted from Catholic to Methodist religion. The researcher further asked follow up question about his coping mechanisms but he only said that it's fine. He told that it is just like other students who asked question to their instructor where there are lessons they did not understand.

Ryan, 15 years old is currently studying in Pangasinan State University, Lingayen Campus taking up Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management. He lives in Artacho Street Lingayen, Pangasinan. Her father was died. He lives with his grandmother because his mother is working abroad. According to him, he stopped schooling when he was in third year high school because of addiction to computer games and also he did not want to undergo K-12 Program. He was not influenced by his friends because he played alone. His mother encouraged him to enroll in ALS Program. After two months, at the age of fourteen, he decided to enroll in order to graduate together with his batch mates and also he wants to be with his batch mates. He enrolled on January 2016 at Padilla Elementary School, Lingayen, Pangasinan. Ryan said that, he attended ALS Program three times a week in a half day. According to him, before examination, they gave them a reviewer or module to answer it. Then after checking, all the

mistakes will be discussed by their teacher. He found difficulty in writing an essay but he learned on how to do it because their teacher gave them a tip. He said that they practiced it how many times. He also found difficulty in his adjustment since his classmates are older than him. He also told that his teacher taught basic knowledge only about their five subjects. He shared that it is difficult to stop studying. According to him, at the age of 15 he took up A & E Test on July 2016 and completed ALS Program for three months. On September, he knew the result and luckily, he passed the examination. After one month, he got his certificate. The academic performance of Ryan based on his grades last first semester year 2016-2017, he got a poor performance in his three subjects entitled; Philippine History, English, and Filipino with the same rating of 3.00 which are equivalent to 75.00. According to him, the reason why he did not excel in these particular subjects because he only acquired basic knowledge when he was in the ALS Program. But Ryan's good performance is on his Algebra subject with a rating of 2.25 which is equivalent to 82.50. He pursued his college education because he realized that the opportunity will be wasted if he will not continue his studies. He also wanted to be with his batch mate. On September 2016, he enrolled in college. Ryan thought that entering college was not that easy as he expected. He found difficulty in his Filipino subject about "*Pagsasaliksik*" (Researching). Last semester; he also experienced difficulty in his math subject because he was confused with the formula. According to him, the most important lesson he learned in ALS Program that he can apply in his studies is writing an essay. He told that he found difficulty in socializing with his classmates because they are older than him. He was shy to socialize with them because of their age. According to him, if you are younger than them, they will discriminate you. His classmates see him as a weak person. His adjustment when he entered college is normal because he easily met new friends. Ryan did all the requirements in his subject in order for him to pass. He mentioned that when he experienced discrimination from his classmate, "*I chose to be silent because they don't know my potentials*". When there is a lesson he could not understand, he asked his classmate and sometimes he researched. The researchers asked further question and Ryan mentioned that it is just normal like the other students.

Based on the findings, two out of six respondents stopped their schooling because of

financial problem. There are two respondents who encountered peer pressure and due to the influenced by their friends. Three out of six respondents said that they did not want to undergo K-12 program and there is one respondent who experienced lack of interest in schooling. While one of the respondents tried to enroll in ALS Program. Four out of six respondents were encouraged by their teacher to take up ALS and the two respondents were encouraged by their mother.

The researchers found out that, the duration of meetings of the ALS Graduates are not the same. Two out of six respondents attended ALS classes three times a week while the three respondents are once a week and there is only one respondent who attended four times a week. One respondent experienced to speak in front of his co-learners. All respondents stated that their teachers are giving module. But, they are not discussing it very well. Five out of six respondents stated that they only learned basic knowledge in five learning areas of ALS program. When it comes to their learning experiences, the researchers found out that all respondents improved their essay writing skills. And one of them enhanced his self- confidence. Due to the way of teaching, there are four out of six respondents who acquired self-study skills, advance reading and researching. There are three respondents who did not found difficulty on taking up ALS Program. The other two respondents found difficulty on writing an essay and lastly, one respondent experienced difficulty in her subjects because she forgot her learning since she stopped within three years.

Two out of six respondents had fair performance in English with a subject description Study and Thinking Skills and Writing in a Discipline with grades of 2.75 which is equivalent to 76-78 % while one respondent got 3.00 in his English subject (Study and Thinking Skills) which is equivalent to 75 %. There is also one respondent who got 2.25 in English Subject (Writing in the Discipline) which is equivalent to 82-84 %. In Algebra subject, three respondents had good performance with grades of 2.25 which is equivalent to 82-84 % and one respondent had good performance with grades of 1.75 which is equivalent to 88-89 %. In Science subject (General Physics), one respondent had fair performance with grades of 2.75 which is equivalent to 88-90 %. In Filipino subject (Komunikasyonsa Akademikong Filipino), there is one respondent who had very good performance with grades of 1.25 which is equivalent to 94-96 % and also one respondent had poor performance with grades of 3.00

which is equivalent to 75%. In Social Science subject (Philippine History), one respondent had good performance with grades of 1.75 which is equivalent to 88-89 %. There is also one respondent who had poor performance with grades of 3.00 which is equivalent to 75%.

Two of the respondents pursued their tertiary education because of wanting to become a successful person or to reach their dreams. The other one wanted to find a job and to have a better future while the two respondents grabbed the opportunity to study again. Since one of the respondents took up ALS program when he was in elementary (Grade V), he just wanted to try it and took the opportunity for him to easily undergo secondary education.

One respondent experienced bullying because she graduated as ALS and the other one experienced discrimination and difficulty in socializing from his classmates because they are older than him and see him as a weak person. Four out of six respondents experienced difficulty especially in their Mathematics subject such as Accounting, Statistics and Algebra. One out of six respondents experienced problem in terms of managing his time since he was a working student. One out of six respondents experienced financial problem because of too much expenses in his requirements.

All respondents asking help to their instructor, classmates and friends when they don't understand the lesson. Advance reading, researching and self study are the coping strategies they used to overcome their academic difficulties. When it comes to their socialization, three respondents stated that they socialized properly like the other students. While the two respondents found difficulty in socializing because they experienced being bullied and discriminate by the other students and chose to silent. One respondent stated that in order for him to compete with his classmate he passed all his requirements.

Majority of the respondents are encourage by their parents in taking up alternative learning system and they do not like to undergo K-12 program on the other hand lack of interest in schooling, financial problem, peer pressure and influenced by their friends are the reasons why the students undergo the program. In terms of their experience while taking ALS majority express that their teachers do not explain some topics that are incorporated in their module. On the academic performance of the students their report of rating shows that they have good performance on the following subjects; Algebra, English, Filipino, Social Science and



Science. The students experience bullying and discrimination from their classmates and they struggled managing their time and in terms of their adjustments and coping mechanism they have done the study shows that advance reading, research, and self-study are the coping strategies they used to cope up with their academic difficulties.

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations are made are: he curriculum developed and implementers of alternative learning system should explore ways on how to improve the performance of the learners, The university Guidance and Student services unit should create a program customized for ALS Graduates in order to help them cope with their academic and social problems, The Department of Education in partnership with Commission in Higher Education must provide specific financial assistance like scholarship for ALS Graduates enrolled in state universities so that they will overcome their financial difficulties, and The ALS Teacher must undergo training or seminar for Effective teaching skills in order for the learners acquired more knowledge to them.

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