
Overview of the Self-Study Research Process

What and How

My goal is to help others gain the kind of knowledge that has helped me in understanding a broad range of science concepts to gain an understanding of the natural world. More importantly, understanding the personal experiences that have enabled me to more quickly grasp the importance of science concepts from well-rounded, well-framed scientific contexts will help me guide students in becoming more aware of the role science will play in their futures.

—Dawn Renee Wilcox (2006), *Science Coordinator,
Spotsylvania County Public Schools, Virginia*

CHAPTER DESCRIPTION

In this chapter, you will gain an overview of the self-study process by reviewing the self-study project planner, which includes components of your final research report. Your attention is brought to the recursive nature of self-study research while also acknowledging that teachers need to have a project planner to move toward the goal of improving practice and students' learning. A suggested timeline also provides a structure for your scholarly project and highlights the many and often overlapping components of conducting a quality self-study research project. A student self-study research exemplar is provided in brief, highlighting project research components.