

# Overview of the Online Module: **Autobiographical Inquiry: Investigating Our Practice**

**Module Instructor: Dr. Shauna Butterwick**

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## “Autobiographical Inquiry: Investigating Our Practice”: Module Overview

Module Instructor: Dr. Shauna Butterwick

This module introduces you to autobiographical, autoethnographic, and life writing approaches. In her introduction, Shauna describes the value of self-inquiry for graduate students:

It’s an opportunity to pause and think more carefully about what you do and why; we are often not given this kind of time in our daily work/lives, and it can be very rewarding and revealing. As Laurel Richardson argues, writing is itself a form of inquiry . . . . It is through writing that we come to understand something. It’s not a matter of having it all figured out, then writing it down; rather, it’s about figuring it out *through* the writing process.

The following table provides an at-a-glance view of the six segments of the module and the subsections within each segment. The module also includes, as a last segment, the Resources Section, where you may read/view additional material.

Segment	Subsections	Unit	Length of Unit
<b>Welcome to the Module! Please read this first.</b>	Welcome!	Here’s a Quick Overview...	2 minutes
	So, What Is Autobiographical Inquiry?	Video: What is Autobiographical Inquiry?	4.55 minutes
		The Value of Self-Inquiry	2 minutes
	An Overview of the Module	The Structure of the Module	3 minutes
		Best Practices for the Module	3 minutes
	Suggested Assignments	List of Suggested Assignments	3 minutes
<b>Total time for introduction</b>			<b>18.55 minutes</b>
<b>Segment 1. Getting Your Feet Wet</b>	Overview & Readings for This Segment	Readings for This Segment	2 minutes
	1.1 The Power of Stories	Why Stories?	1 minute
		[Video] The Power of the Method	2.30 minutes
	1.2 Defining Auto-Ethnography, Auto-biography and Life Writing	Definitions	2 minutes
	1.3 Challenges and Possibilities of Autobiographical Methods	[Video] Challenges and Possibilities of the Method	5.50 minutes
	1.4 Figuring out the Right Method	[Video] Figuring out the Right Method	5.52 minutes
	<b>Total time for Segment 1</b>		

<b>Segment 2. How to Get from Here to There</b>	Overview & Readings for this Segment	Readings for this Segment	2 minutes
	2.1 Writing as a Form of Reflection and Research	How does one go about a Life-Writing study?	2 minutes
		[Video] Writing as a Form of Inquiry	3.23 minutes
	2.2 The Writing Process	[Video] Commitment and Creativity in the Writing Process	5.33 minutes
		[Video] The Writing Process	5.13 minutes
		[Video] Speaking Back to Artifacts	2.55 minutes
		Format and Structure	2 minutes
	2.3 Strategies for Keeping on Track	[Video] How to Stay on Track – Part 1	5.50 minutes
		[Video] How to Stay on Track – Part 2	5.07 minutes
	2.4 A Few Potential Challenges	[Video] Overcoming Writer’s Block	6.15 minutes
		[Video] Integrating Existing Literature	7.06 minutes
<b>Total time for Segment 2</b>			<b>47.22 minutes</b>
<b>Segment 3. Ethical Matters and Worthwhileness</b>			
Overview & Readings for this Segment	Readings for this Segment	2 minutes	
3.1 Ethical Considerations	What ethical issues should I expect?	3 minutes	
	[Video] Ethical Considerations	5.40 minutes	
3.2 Understanding Your Audience	[Video] Understanding Your Audience	3.38 minutes	
3.3 Evaluating the Quality of Autobiographical Inquiry	Assessing the Value of this Approach	3 minutes	
	[Video] Storytelling as a Form of Knowledge Transfer	3.22 minutes	
<b>Total time for Segment 3</b>			<b>20.40 minutes</b>
<b>Resources for the Module</b>			
<b>Suggested Assignments</b>			
<b>Total time for Module</b>			<b>1 hour 46 minutes 9 seconds</b>