Summer Institute II was a joyous reunion for our cohort, the first time all eighteen of us were gathered in one place since the prior summer. This course focused on preparing us for the journey ahead.

The first project for this course was to revisit and update our Professional Growth Plan, initially created in Summer Institute 1. It was a great opportunity to reflect on how much has happened since then, how much I have grown both as an educator and as a leader, and how many of my goals I had accomplished so far. It was also a time to set the bar a little higher, to maintain the momentum of the first year with new goals.

The next major project was an update and revision of our Portfolio website. During Summer Institute, we had the opportunity to present our work to our colleagues in Cohort 3, who were able to ask questions about our work. After that experience, we had the opportunity to revise our Portfolios, and then to present them on video. Presenting on video was a new experience for me, and I do have some work to do before I feel comfortable with that medium.

This course was a great experience for me, as I gained confidence in my own work. We were also able to observe presentations by Cohort 3, which helps to prepare us for what we will be required to do next summer. We were also able to reinforce some of the concepts we struggled with during our Research course last semester, which will help us move forward in our journey to become effective researchers.