4.1: Chapter Summary

You now have an initial understanding of the types of writing that may be required of you during your post-secondary nursing program. When starting an assignment, the first thing you should do is closely read the assignment guidelines (and the marking rubric if you are provided one). You need to know what you are supposed to do before you do it. The next chapters will help you understand and advance your capacity to write, revise, and edit a paper, and ensure academic integrity.

Your Writing Journey

Now that you have a good sense of the different types of writing, you should focus on what is being asked of you in assignments. Pay attention to the language that your instructor provides – are they asking you to persuade, describe, or reflect on a particular topic? This will help you establish a writing style and is a crucial step to determine before you write an outline. Remember, the type of writing will influence what information you choose to put forward to the reader. It will be an important basis for the whole paper, so as you formulate your ideas, you should reflect on whether you are trying to influence an opinion, merely share information, or engage in self-analysis. You’re almost ready to start an outline!