

## **Abigail's Bio:**

Hi! My name is Abigail (she/her) and I am a junior nursing major and health minor. I really enjoy working at the Illinois Wesleyan writing center because I love writing but I do not get to do enough of it in nursing! An aspect I particularly find fun and interesting is helping organize thoughts and ideas.

My methods surrounding tutoring all center around the writer! I am aware that each person is unique and has their own way of learning that works best for them, and, therefore, I will try my hardest to cater to each individual in order to make them a stronger and more confident writer. Because of the writing center's value of collaboration and communication, I will use an inquiry-based approach, in other words, I will ask you lots of questions! Let's have a conversation about your topic! If you feel comfortable, I will also ask you to read your paper aloud, this action allows you to learn to catch your own writing errors. We can then do an error analysis, meaning we can come up with a plan of action for how to handle what you seem to struggle the most with.

Additionally, I plan to learn new concepts with you. I cannot promise to know everything about a certain topic or citation style, but I can help you find and apply the information together. My primary focus as a tutor is to help you grow in your writing process and therefore make you a stronger and more confident writer. I also believe everyone can benefit from the writing center, writers, tutors, and faculty alike. One can never stop working and improving their writing.

I personally know how much I value my time at the writing center talking about what I'm currently working on and getting opinions and new perspectives on my ideas from people who truly care. To me, a good tutor is passionate about my success and we are able to bounce ideas off of each other. They are knowledgeable and are able to give feedback about the strength of my analysis as well as point out where an area that may not be as strong. Because I know how valuable the writing center is, I am constantly reading and writing to be a better tutor. One of my favorite pieces I have read so far in my college career, "Shitty First Drafts", by Anne Lamott, is about first drafts and I truly believe anyone who writes would benefit from reading it. The piece talks about how first drafts are not going to be good, and that is okay, the job of a first draft is not to be good, its only job is to exist. The writing center is a place for all types of writing, not excluding first drafts. I, and no one else at the writing center, are here to judge your writing. We are here to help writers talk out their thoughts at any stage, and to encourage and support everyone to be the best writer they can be. I also understand how vulnerable it can be to present your writing, you just poured your heart out on that page! And I respect the courage that it takes.

I have written for Dr. Anna Scanlon, Dr. Montpetit-Jolly, and Dr. Brenda Drury. I am also proficient with MLA and familiar with APA 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> edition citations, too. This is my second year as a writing center tutor.