AACN Essentials & MSN Program Outcomes

American Association of Colleges of Nursing
The Essentials of Master's Education in Nursing

- **Essential I: Background for Practice from Sciences and Humanities**
Recognizes that the master's-prepared nurse integrates scientific findings from nursing, biopsychosocial fields, genetics, public health, quality improvement, and organizational sciences for the continual improvement of nursing care across diverse settings.

- **Essential II: Organizational and Systems Leadership**
Recognizes that organizational and systems leadership are critical to the promotion of high quality and safe patient care. Leadership skills are needed that emphasize ethical and critical decision making, effective working relationships, and a systems-perspective.

- **Essential III: Quality Improvement and Safety**
Recognizes that a master's-prepared nurse must be articulate in the methods, tools, performance measures, and standards related to quality, as well as prepared to apply quality principles within an organization.

- **Essential IV: Translating and Integrating Scholarship into Practice**
Recognizes that the master's-prepared nurse applies research outcomes within the practice setting, resolves practice problems, works as a change agent, and disseminates results.

- **Essential V: Informatics and Healthcare Technologies**
Recognizes that the master's-prepared nurse uses patient-care technologies to deliver and enhance care and uses communication technologies to integrate and coordinate care.

- **Essential VI: Health Policy and Advocacy**
Recognizes that the master's-prepared nurse is able to intervene at the system level through the policy development process and to employ advocacy strategies to influence health and health care.

- **Essential VII: Interprofessional Collaboration for Improving Patient and Population Health Outcomes**

Recognizes that the master's-prepared nurse, as a member and leader of interprofessional teams, communicates, collaborates, and consults with other health professionals to manage and coordinate care.

- **Essential VIII: Clinical Prevention and Population Health for Improving Health**
  Recognizes that the master's-prepared nurse applies and integrates broad, organizational, client-centered, and culturally appropriate concepts in the planning, delivery, management, and evaluation of evidence-based clinical prevention and population care and services to individuals, families, and aggregates/identified populations.

- **Essential IX: Master's-Level Nursing Practice**
  Recognizes that nursing practice, at the master's level, is broadly defined as any form of nursing intervention that influences healthcare outcomes for individuals, populations, or systems. Master's-level nursing graduates must have an advanced level of understanding of nursing and relevant sciences as well as the ability to integrate this knowledge into practice. Nursing practice interventions include both direct and indirect care components.

<u>School of Nursing</u>
MSN Program Outcomes

1. **Background for Practice from Sciences and Humanities**: Integrate scientific findings from nursing, biopsychosocial fields, genetics, public health, quality improvement, and organizational sciences for the continual improvement of nursing care across diverse settings.

2. **Organizational and Systems Leadership**: Demonstrate ethical and critical decision-making leadership skills that result in effective working relationships and a systems perspective.

3. **Quality Improvement and Safety**: Implement quality improvement principles within an organization using methods, tools, performance measures, and standards related to quality.

4. **Translating and Integrating Scholarship into Practice**: Apply research outcomes within the practice setting, resolve practice problems, work as a change agent, and disseminate results.

5. **Informatics and Health Care Technologies**: Utilize patient-care and communication technologies to deliver and coordinate quality care.

6. **Health Policy and Advocacy**: Employ policy that supports advocacy strategies to influence health and health care.

7. **Interprofessional Collaboration for Improving Patient and Population Health Outcomes**: Collaborate with interprofessional teams to improve patient and population health outcomes.

8. **Clinical Prevention and Population Health for Improving Health**: Support broad, organizational, client-centered, and culturally appropriate concepts in the planning, delivery, management, and evaluation of evidence-based clinical prevention and population care and services to individuals, families, and aggregates/identified populations.

9. **Master's-Level Nursing Practice**: Integrate advanced levels of understanding of nursing and relevant sciences to influence health care outcomes for individuals, populations, or systems.