10 Essential Domains for the Baccalaureate Prepared Nurse

The faculty have identified 10 Essential Domains for the Baccalaureate prepared nurse. The Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education (2021) domains delineated from The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN).

Domain 1: Knowledge for Nursing Practice
Integration, translation, and application of established and evolving disciplinary nursing knowledge and ways of knowing, as well as knowledge from other disciplines, including a foundation in liberal arts and natural and social sciences.

Domain 2: Person-Centered Care
Focuses on the individual within multiple complicated contexts, including family and/or important others. Person-centered care is holistic, individualized, just, respectful, compassionate, coordinated, evidence-based, and developmentally appropriate.

Domain 3: Population Health
Spans the healthcare delivery continuum from public health prevention to disease management of populations and describes collaborative activities with both traditional and non-traditional partnerships from affected communities, public health, industry, academia, health care, local government entities, and others for the improvement of equitable population health outcomes.

Domain 4: Scholarship for Nursing Discipline
The generation, synthesis, translation, application, and dissemination of nursing knowledge to improve health and transform health care.

Domain 5: Quality and Safety
Employment of established and emerging principles of safety and improvement science. Quality and safety, as core values of nursing practice, enhance quality and minimize risk of harm to patients and providers through both system effectiveness and individual performance.

Domain 6: Interprofessional Partnerships
Intentional collaboration across professional and with care team members, patients, families, communities, and other stakeholders to optimize and enhance the healthcare experience, and strengthen outcomes.

Domain 7: Systems-Based Practice
Responding to and leading within complex systems of health care. Nurses effectively and proactively coordinate resources to provide safe, quality, equitable care to diverse populations.

Domain 8: Informatics and Healthcare Technologies
Information and communication technologies and informatics processes are used to provide care, gather data, form information to drive decision making, and support professional as they expand knowledge and wisdom for practice. Informatics processes and technologies are used to manage and improve the delivery of safe, high quality, and efficient healthcare services in accordance with best practice and professional and regulatory standards.

Domain 9: Professionalism
Formation and cultivation of a sustainable professional nursing identity, accountability, perspective, collaborative disposition, and comportment that reflects nursing’s characteristics and values.

Domain 10: Personal, Professional, and Leadership Development
Participation in activities and self-reflection that foster personal health, resilience, and well-being, lifelong learning, and support the acquisition of nursing expertise and assertion of leadership.