Program Mission Statement
The Mission of the Department of Nursing is: “The FMU Nursing Program prepares graduates to function competently as caring, professional nurses in a variety of healthcare settings. The program endeavors to instill in students the value of lifelong learning” (https://www.fmarion.edu/healthsciences/nursing/).

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES
1. MSN to DNP students will demonstrate leadership and integrity in an advanced practice role utilizing scientific and theoretical knowledge to identify a Project Improvement to be carried out over the course of the educational endeavor.
2. MSN to DNP students will appraise current interdisciplinary evidence to identify gaps in nursing knowledge and formulate research question based on the tenets of evidence-based practice and utilize this information in a Project Improvement.
3. MSN to DNP students will apply advanced concepts in science, health policy, finance, and nursing knowledge to implement health promotion and disease prevention in the Improvement Project.
4. MSN to DNP students will provide holistic patient-centered care in an advanced practice role thereby utilizing theoretical knowledge and provide process improvement in Improvement Projects and successfully complete 500 clinical hours.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):
(Derived from the AACN’s The Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice)
1. Applies nursing and interprofessional scientific and theoretical knowledge to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations.
2. Uses leadership skills and competencies in healthcare systems to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations.
3. Synthesizes and disseminates evidence-based practices to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations.
4. Utilizes information systems and technology to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations.
5. Demonstrates leadership and advocacy in facilitating positive healthcare change to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations.
6. Employs effective interprofessional communication and collaboration to improve healthcare service to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations.
7. Implement systems changes that advocate healthcare prevention to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations.
8. Deliver advanced practice care in complex situations and systems to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations (Adapted from the AACN Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice, 2006).

The DNP program is, by definition, a specialized program, as DNP graduates assume specific roles in the nursing workforce. While all DNP programs incorporate the DNP Essentials, further preparation falls into one of two categories:

- An advanced practice nursing direct care focus
  - Nurse practitioner (NP)
  - Certified nurse midwife (CNM)
  - Certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA)
  - Clinical nurse specialist (CNS)
- An aggregate/systems/organizational focus
  - Organizational and professional leadership
  - Management
  - Health policy
  - Nursing/health informatics

### Assessment Methods with links to the DNP Essentials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AACN DNP Essential</th>
<th>FMU End-of-Program Student Learning Outcome (SLO)</th>
<th>Type of Assessment</th>
<th>DNP Assessment Method</th>
<th>Baseline Benchmark Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Essential I: Scientific Underpinnings for practice prepares the DNP graduate to:  
  1. Integrate nursing science with knowledge from ethics, the biophysical, psychosocial, analytical, and organizational sciences as the basis for the highest level of nursing practice  
  2. Use science-based theories and concepts to:  
  3. Determine the nature and significance of health and health care delivery phenomena.  
  4. Describe the actions and advanced strategies to enhance, alleviate, and ameliorate health | Applies nursing and interprofessional scientific and theoretical knowledge to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations. | Direct | The DNP project will identify a specific process improvement needed for a population of patients or healthcare system and includes a graded section related to an interprofessional literature review and an applied theoretical background. | Baseline: 100% of students demonstrated a grade of 77 or above on the DNP Theory Scholarly paper utilizing underpinning sections for practice and all areas identified with the listed components for the project improvement process in each course and area identified. |
and healthcare delivery phenomena as appropriate; and
5. Evaluate outcomes.
6. Develop and evaluates new practice approaches based on nursing theories and theories from other disciplines.

- Describe the role of culture in the project (DNP 802).

**Theoretical Framework**
- Describe the theoretical framework for the DNP project (ie PDSA cycles, theory being utilized) (DNP 800 & DNP 801).

**Benchmark:** 90% of students will achieve a minimum grade of 77% on the Theory Paper in each course identified.

**Rationale:** The majority of the students in the MSN to DNP will graduate within the year-long program and the expectation is that the majority will complete the program successfully.

**Target:** 90% of the students will achieve a minimum grade of 77 on the Scholarly Paper.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essential II: Organizational and Systems Leadership for Quality Improvement and Systems Thinking prepares the DNP graduate to:</th>
<th>Uses leadership skills and competencies in healthcare systems to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on Direct</th>
<th>The DNP students’ projects will demonstrate process improvement for a population or healthcare system to improve services by demonstrating leadership skills and competencies in the healthcare systems with the process improvement project. Demonstrates in DNP 802:</th>
<th>Baseline: 100% of students demonstrated a grade of 77 or above on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper utilizing underpinning s for practice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Develop and evaluate care delivery approaches that meet current and future needs of patient populations based on scientific findings in nursing and other clinical sciences as well as</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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**Benchmark:** 90% of students will achieve a minimum grade of 77% on the Theory Paper in each course identified.

**Rationale:** The majority of the students in the MSN to DNP will graduate within the year-long program and the expectation is that the majority will complete the program successfully.

**Target:** 90% of the students will achieve a minimum grade of 77 on the Scholarly Paper.

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**Baseline:** 100% of students demonstrated a grade of 77 or above on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper utilizing underpinning s for practice.
organizational, political, and economic sciences

2. Ensure accountability for quality health care and patient safety for populations with whom they work
   a. Use advanced communication skills/processes to lead quality improvement and patient safety initiatives in health care systems
   b. Employ principles of business, finance, economics, and health policy to develop and implement effective plans for practice-level and/or system-wide practice initiatives that will improve the quality of care delivery.
   c. Develop and/or monitor budgets for practice initiatives
   d. Analyze the cost-effectiveness of practice initiatives accounting for risk and improvement in healthcare outcomes
   e. Demonstrate sensitivity to diverse organizational rural populations.

**Benchmarks and Goals**

- How does the project effect healthcare policy locally, nationally, or globally?
- How does a Doctoral prepared nurse lead change? (Completed in DNP 801).

and all areas identified with the listed components for the project improvement process in each course and area identified.

Benchmark: 90% of students will achieve a minimum grade of 77% on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper in each course identified.

Rationale: The majority of the students in the MSN to DNP will graduate within the year-long program and the expectation is that the majority will complete the program successfully.

Target: 90% of the students will achieve a minimum grade of 77 on the Scholarly Project Improvement Scholarly Paper.
cultures and populations, including patients and providers.

3. Develop and/or evaluate effective strategies for managing the ethical dilemmas inherent in patient care, the health care organization, and research.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essential III: Clinical Scholarship and Analytical Methods for Evidence-based Practice, the DNP graduate will be prepared to:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Use analytic methods to critically appraise existing literature and other evidence to determine and implement the best evidence for practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Design and implement processes to evaluate outcomes of practice, practice patterns, and systems of care within a practice setting, health care organization, or community against national benchmarks to determine variances in practice outcomes and population trends.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Design, direct, and evaluate quality improvement methodologies to promote safe, timely, effective, efficient, equitable, and patient-centered care.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Apply relevant findings to develop practice guidelines and improve practice and the practice environment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Use information technology and research methods appropriately to:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. collect appropriate data.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| | Synthesizes and disseminates evidence-based practices to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations. |
| --- |
| Direct | The DNP project will be evidence-based. The project will include a list and appraisal of current best evidence and a synthetization of findings and the appropriate application to the population or system being affected. |

**DNP Project outline section(s) that apply:**

**Evidence Review & Synthesis**

- Evaluate relevant research and current scientific work that relates to the purpose of the project. Use only state of the science data from literature to highlight the scope and magnitude of the problem/issue. Critical appraisal of relevant research means addressing consistencies and inconsistencies in findings, analyzing opposing and supporting viewpoints, evaluating quality of literature cited.

**Baseline:** 100% of students demonstrated a grade of 77 or above on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper utilizing underpinning s for practice and all areas identified with the listed components for the project improvement process in each course and area identified.

**Benchmark:** 90% of students will achieve a minimum grade of 77% on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper in each course identified.

**Rationale:** The majority of the students in
and accurate data to generate evidence for nursing practice.

b. inform and guide the design of data bases that generate meaningful evidence for nursing practice.

c. analyze data from practice design evidence-based interventions.

d. predict and analyze outcomes.

e. examine patterns of behavior and outcomes.

f. identify gaps in evidence for practice.

6. Function as a practice specialist/consultant in collaborative knowledge-generating research.

7. Disseminate findings from evidence-based practice and research to improve healthcare outcomes.

identifying gaps, study limitations, and how the project will address this area. Synthesize the findings from research related to the practice problem as identified in the review of the literature. This is a focused brief evidence appraisal (including evidence table if appropriate). This section includes key evidence that requires review of the most current literature found in primary sources.

- Summarize the link between the relevant literature and the project idea.
- Current evidence-based literature must be evaluated with a focus on each individual process improvement project.

Clinical Question:
- The clinical question should be in Population Intervention Comparison Outcome Time (PICOT) format. (Completed in DNP 801).

Protection of Human Participants:
- Discuss how human subjects

Target: 90% of the students will achieve a minimum grade of 77 on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper.
will be protected during the DNP project. Identify how information will be collected, stored and secured.

- The DNP Project Chair will assist in the IRB document needed in the submission to the Francis Marion University (FMU) Institutional Review Board (IRB) and what type of application is being submitted (i.e. expedited).
- The DNP Project Chair must submit the application to the Francis Marion University IRB.
- The student will then be required to submit an IRB application to the IRB at the site where the project will take place (if applicable).

(Completed in 804)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essential IV: Information Systems/Technology and Patient Care Technology for the Improvement and Transformation of Health Care, the DNP program prepares the graduate to:</th>
<th>Utilizes information systems and technology to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations.</th>
<th>Direct</th>
<th>The DNP student will be evaluated on the utilization of information systems by the following methods: 1) demonstrates adeptness in library searches for the DNP project, 2) accesses electronic data needed to complete the DNP project, and 3) practitioner students will record appropriate and complete patient data in the electronic patient data base electronically.</th>
<th>Baseline: 100% of students demonstrated a grade of 77 or above on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper utilizing underpinning s for practice and all areas identified with the listed components</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Design, select, use, and evaluate programs that evaluate and monitor outcomes of care, care systems, and quality improvement including consumer use of health care information systems.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Setting/Sample</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
elements necessary to the selection, use and evaluation of health care information systems and patient care technology.

3. Demonstrate the conceptual ability and technical skills to develop and execute an evaluation plan involving data extraction from practice information systems and databases.

4. Provide leadership in the evaluation and resolution of ethical and legal issues within healthcare systems relating to the use of information, information technology, communication networks, and patient care technology.

5. Evaluate consumer health information sources for accuracy, timeliness, and appropriateness

| Essential V: Health Care Policy for Advocacy in Health | Demonstrates leadership and advocacy in | The DNP project goal is to establish a positive Baseline: 100% of students | Setting where the project takes place.
- What is the target population?
- What healthcare providers are involved?
- What technology is needed to enhance the project? (Completed in DNP 800, 801, and DNP 803) | for the project improvement process in each course and area identified. Benchmark: 90% of students will achieve a minimum grade of 77% on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper in each course identified. Rationale: The majority of the students in the MSN to DNP will graduate within the year-long program and the expectation is that the majority will complete the program successfully. Target: 90% of the students will achieve a minimum grade of 77 on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper. |
### Care, the DNP program prepares the graduate to:

1. Critically analyze health policy proposals, health policies, and related issues from the perspective of consumers, nursing, other health professions, and other stakeholders in policy and public forums.

2. Demonstrate leadership in the development and implementation of institutional, local, state, federal, and/or international health policy.

3. Influence policy makers through active participation on committees, boards, or task forces at the institutional, local, state, regional, national, and/or international levels to improve health care delivery and outcomes.

4. Educate others, including policy makers at all levels, regarding nursing, health policy, and patient care outcomes.

5. Advocate for the nursing profession within the policy and healthcare communities.

6. Develop, evaluate, and provide leadership for health care policy that shapes health care financing, regulation, and delivery.

7. Advocate for social justice, equity, and ethical policies within all healthcare arenas.

### DNP Project outline

#### Purpose

- How does the project effect healthcare policy locally, nationally, or globally?
- How does a doctoral-prepared nurse lead change as a leader and advocate?

(Completed in DNP 802)

### Benchmark:

90% of students will achieve a minimum grade of 77% on the in each course DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper identified.

### Rationale:

The majority of the students in the MSN to DNP will graduate within the year-long program and the expectation is that the majority will complete the program successfully.

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**Essential VI: Interprofessional Collaboration for Improving Patient and Population Health Outcomes**, the DNP program prepares the graduate to:

1. Employ effective communication and collaborative skills in the development and implementation of practice models, peer review, practice guidelines, health policy, standards of care, and/or other scholarly products.
2. Lead interprofessional teams in the analysis of complex practice and organizational issues.
3. Employ consultative and leadership skills with interprofessional and interprofessional teams to create change in health care and complex healthcare delivery systems.

| Emphasize effective interprofessional communication and collaboration to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations. | Direct | The DNP student will demonstrate interprofessional communication and collaboration in skills during their practicum hours by making the appropriate referrals for patients and securing services that meet patient needs. Secondly, the DNP project will demonstrate interprofessional communication and collaboration during the development stages as the student demonstrates leadership in process improvement. |

**DNP Project outline section(s) that apply:**

**Study Design/Methods**
The Steps of the project with a scholarly paper consisting of items a-c). (Completed in 805).

| Baseline: 100% of students demonstrated a grade of 77 or above on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper utilizing underpinning for practice and all areas identified with the listed components for the project improvement process in each course and area identified. | Benchmark: 90% of students will achieve a minimum grade of 77% on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper in each course identified. | Rationale: The majority of the...
Essential VII: Clinical Prevention and Population Health for Improving the Nation’s Health, the DNP program prepares the graduate to:

1. Analyze epidemiological, biostatistical, environmental, and other appropriate scientific data related to individual, aggregate, and population health.

2. Synthesize concepts, including psychosocial dimensions and cultural diversity, related to clinical prevention and population health in developing, implementing, and evaluating interventions to address health promotion/disease prevention efforts, improve health status/access patterns, and/or address gaps in care of individuals.

Implement systems changes that advocate healthcare prevention to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations.

Direct

The DNP project will have a healthcare prevention component integrated into the project to address the chronic healthcare needs of the population being affected.

DNP Project outline section(s) that apply:

Data collection and project implementation (Completed in 807).

Evaluation/Data Analysis

Describe the analytical approach to evaluate the outcomes of the project. If statistics are being used, explain the procedures including what was done and why the specific analysis was selected.

(Completed in 807/808).

Baseline:

100% of students demonstrated a grade of 77 or above on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper utilizing underpinning s for practice and all areas identified with the listed components for the project improvement process in each course and area identified.

Benchmark:

90% of students will achieve a grade of 77 or above on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper.

Target:

90% of students in the MSN to DNP will graduate within the year-long program and the expectation is that the majority will complete the program successfully.

Baseline:

100% of students demonstrated a grade of 77 or above on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper utilizing underpinning s for practice and all areas identified with the listed components for the project improvement process in each course and area identified.

Benchmark:

90% of students will achieve a
aggregates, or populations.
3. Evaluate care delivery models and/or strategies using concepts related to community, environmental and occupational health, and cultural and socioeconomic dimensions of health.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essential VIII: Advanced Nursing Practice, the DNP program prepares the graduate to:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Conduct a comprehensive and systematic assessment of health and illness parameters in complex situations, incorporating diverse and culturally sensitive approaches.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Design, implement, and evaluate therapeutic interventions based on nursing science and other sciences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliver advanced practice care in complex situations and systems to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations. (Adapted from Direct DNP Project outline section(s) that apply: Baseline: minimum grade of 77% on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper in each course identified. Rationale: The majority of the students in the MSN to DNP will graduate within the year-long program and the expectation is that the majority will complete the program successfully. Target: 90% of the students will achieve a minimum grade of 77 on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper. Deliver advanced practice care in complex situations and systems to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations. (Adapted from Direct DNP Project outline section(s) that apply: Results/Outcomes What are the results /Evaluation/Data Analysis Baseline: 100% of students demonstrated a grade of 77 or above on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper utilizing underpinning s for practice and all areas identified with the listed DNP Project outline section(s) that apply: Results/Outcomes What are the results /Evaluation/Data Analysis Baseline: 100% of students demonstrated a grade of 77 or above on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper utilizing underpinning s for practice and all areas identified with the listed</td>
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<td>7.</td>
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**Assessment Results** linking the DNP Essentials with the SLOs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AACN DNP Essential</th>
<th>Benchmark</th>
<th>Assessment Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Benchmark:** 90% of students will achieve a minimum grade of 77% on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper in each course identified.

**Rationale:** The majority of the students in the MSN to DNP will graduate within the year-long program and the expectation is that the majority will complete the program successfully.

**Target:** 90% of the students will achieve a minimum grade of 77 on the DNP Scholarly Project Improvement Paper.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essential I: Scientific Underpinnings for practice prepares the DNP graduate to:</th>
<th>90% of students will demonstrate at a grade of 77% or above.</th>
<th>Essential 1 which corresponds to the end-of-program SLOs #1-3 was completed by two students in MSN/DNP for DNP 800 and DNP 801 at a grade of 77% or above. The benchmark was met at 100%.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Integrate nursing science with knowledge from ethics, the biophysical, psychosocial, analytical, and organizational sciences as the basis for the highest level of nursing practice.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Use science-based theories and concepts to:</td>
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<tr>
<td>a. Determine the nature and significance of health and health care delivery phenomena.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Describe the actions and advanced strategies to enhance, alleviate, and ameliorate health and healthcare delivery phenomena as appropriate; and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>c. Evaluate outcomes.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Develop and evaluates new practice approaches based on nursing theories and theories from other disciplines.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Essential II: Organizational and Systems Leadership for Quality Improvement and Systems Thinking** prepares the DNP graduate to:

1. Develop and evaluate care delivery approaches that meet current and future needs of patient populations based on scientific findings in nursing and other clinical sciences as well as organizational, political, and economic sciences.

2. Ensure accountability for quality health care and patient safety for populations with whom they work:
   a. Use advanced communication skills/processes to lead quality improvement and patient safety initiatives in health care systems.
   b. Employ principles of business, finance, economics, and health policy to develop and implement effective plans for practice-level and/or system-wide practice initiatives that

| 90% of students will demonstrate at a grade of 77% or above. | Essential 2 which corresponds to the end-of-program SLOs #1-3 was completed by two students in MSN/DNP for DNP 801 at a grade of 77% or above. The benchmark was met at 100%. |
will improve the quality of care delivery.

c. Develop and/or monitor budgets for practice initiatives
d. Analyze the cost-effectiveness of practice initiatives accounting for risk and improvement in health care outcomes
e. Demonstrate sensitivity to diverse organizational cultures and populations, including patients and providers

3. Develop and/or evaluate effective strategies for managing the ethical dilemmas inherent in patient care, the health care organization, and research

| Essential III: Clinical Scholarship and Analytical Methods for Evidence-based Practice, the DNP graduate will be prepared to: |
| 1. Use analytic methods to critically appraise existing literature and other evidence to determine and |
| 90% of students will demonstrate at a grade of 77% or above. |

Essential 3 which corresponds to the end-of-program SLO #1-3 were completed by two students in MSN/DNP, DNP 801 at a grade of 77% or above. The benchmark was met at 100%.
implement the best evidence for practice.

2. Design and implement processes to evaluate outcomes of practice, practice patterns, and systems of care within a practice setting, health care organization, or community against national benchmarks to determine variances in practice outcomes and population trends.

3. Design, direct, and evaluate quality improvement methodologies to promote safe, timely, effective, efficient, equitable, and patient-centered care.

4. Apply relevant findings to develop practice guidelines and improve practice and the practice environment.

5. Use information technology and research methods appropriately to:
   a. collect appropriate and accurate data to generate evidence for nursing practice
   b. inform and guide the design of data bases that generate
meaningful evidence for nursing practice
c. analyze data from practice design evidence-based interventions
d. predict and analyze outcomes
e. examine patterns of behavior and outcomes
f. identify gaps in evidence for practice

6. Function as a practice specialist/consultant in collaborative knowledge-generating research.
7. Disseminate findings from evidence-based practice and research to improve healthcare outcomes

**Essential IV: Information Systems/Technology and Patient Care Technology for the Improvement and Transformation of Health Care, the DNP program prepares the graduate to:**
1. Design, select, use, and evaluate programs that evaluate and monitor outcomes of care, care systems, and quality improvement including consumer use of health care information systems.

*90% of students will demonstrate at a grade of 77% or above.*

Essential 4 which corresponds to the end-of-program SLO #1-3 were completed by two MSN/DNP students in DNP 801 at a grade of 77% or above. The benchmark was met at 100%.
2. Analyze and communicate critical elements necessary to the selection, use and evaluation of health care information systems and patient care technology.

3. Demonstrate the conceptual ability and technical skills to develop and execute an evaluation plan involving data extraction from practice information systems and databases.

4. Provide leadership in the evaluation and resolution of ethical and legal issues within healthcare systems relating to the use of information, information technology, communication networks, and patient care technology.

5. Evaluate consumer health information sources for accuracy, timeliness, and appropriateness.

**Essential V: Health Care Policy for Advocacy in Health Care, the DNP program prepares the graduate to:**

1. Critically analyze health policy proposals, health policies, and related issues from the perspective of consumers, nursing, 90% of students will demonstrate at a grade of 77% or above.

Essential 5 which corresponds to the end-of-program SLO #1-3 were completed by two students in MSN/DNP for DNP 802 at a grade of 77% or above. The benchmark was met at 100%.
other health professions, and other stakeholders in policy and public forums.

2. Demonstrate leadership in the development and implementation of institutional, local, state, federal, and/or international health policy.

3. Influence policy makers through active participation on committees, boards, or task forces at the institutional, local, state, regional, national, and/or international levels to improve health care delivery and outcomes.

4. Educate others, including policy makers at all levels, regarding nursing, health policy, and patient care outcomes.

5. Advocate for the nursing profession within the policy and healthcare communities.

6. Develop, evaluate, and provide leadership for health care policy that shapes health care financing, regulation, and delivery.

7. Advocate for social justice, equity, and ethical policies within all healthcare arenas.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essential VI: Interprofessional Collaboration for Improving Patient and Population Health Outcomes, the DNP program prepares the graduate to:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Employ effective communication and collaborative skills in the development and implementation of practice models, peer review, practice guidelines, health policy, standards of care, and/or other scholarly products.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Lead interprofessional teams in the analysis of complex practice and organizational issues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Employ consultative and leadership skills with interprofessional and interprofessional teams to create change in health care and complex healthcare delivery systems.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

90% of students will demonstrate at a grade of 77% or above

Essential 6 which corresponds to the end-of-program SLO #1-3 and Essential 6 which corresponds to DNP 807 and DNP 808 at a grade of 77% or above. The benchmark was met by two students at 100%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essential VII: Clinical Prevention and Population Health for Improving the Nation’s Health, the DNP program prepares the graduate to:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Analyze epidemiological, biostatistical, environmental, and other appropriate scientific data related to individual,</td>
</tr>
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</table>

90% of students will demonstrate at a grade of 77% or above

Essential 7 which corresponds to the end-of-program SLO #7 was Essential 4 which corresponds to the end-of-program SLO #1-3 and corresponds to DNP 807 and DNP 808 at a grade of 77% or above. The benchmark was met by two students at 100%.
aggregate, and population health.

2. Synthesize concepts, including psychosocial dimensions and cultural diversity, related to clinical prevention and population health in developing, implementing, and evaluating interventions to address health promotion/disease prevention efforts, improve health status/access patterns, and/or address gaps in care of individuals, aggregates, or populations.

3. Evaluate care delivery models and/or strategies using concepts related to community, environmental and occupational health, and cultural and socioeconomic dimensions of health.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essential VIII: Advanced Nursing Practice, the DNP program prepares the graduate to:</th>
<th>Monitor for results.</th>
<th>Essential 8 which corresponds to the end-of-program SLO #7 was Essential 4 which corresponds to the end-of-program SLO #2 was DNP 806, DNP at a grade of 77% or above. The benchmark was met by two students at 100%.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Conduct a comprehensive and systematic assessment of health and illness parameters in complex situations, incorporating diverse and culturally sensitive approaches.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
2. Design, implement, and evaluate therapeutic interventions based on nursing science and other sciences.

3. Develop and sustain therapeutic relationships and partnerships with patients (individual, family or group) and other professionals to facilitate optimal care and patient outcomes.

4. Demonstrate advanced levels of clinical judgment, systems thinking, and accountability in designing, delivering, and evaluating evidence-based care to improve patient outcomes.

5. Guide, mentor, and support other nurses to achieve excellence in nursing practice.

6. Educate and guide individuals and groups through complex health and situational transitions.

7. Use conceptual and analytical skills in evaluating the links among practice, organizational, population, fiscal, and policy issues (AACN, The Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice, October 2006).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Assessment Method</th>
<th>Expected Level of Achievement</th>
<th>Frequency of Assessment</th>
<th>Results of Data Collection, including Actual LOAs</th>
<th>Analysis &amp; Actions for Program Development, Maintenance, or Revision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EOPSLO #1</td>
<td>Direct Assessment: a) DNP 808 Project Paper</td>
<td>100% of students must achieve 77% or higher on the Project Paper.</td>
<td>With each graduating class</td>
<td>2020 a) Project Paper 100% b) Poster Presentation 100% c) Results pending</td>
<td>2020 Continued implementation of QI modules in DNP 800 and DNP 801.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EOPSLO #2</td>
<td>Direct Assessment: a) DNP 808 Project Paper</td>
<td>100% of students must achieve 77% or higher on the Project Paper.</td>
<td>With each graduating class</td>
<td>2020 a) Project Paper 100% b) Poster Presentation 100% c) Results pending</td>
<td>2020 BSN – DNP site approval letter required in DNP 803 (semester 3) MSN – DNP site approval letter required in DNP 800 (semester 1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### EOPSLO #3
Synthesizes and disseminates evidence-based practices to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Direct Assessment:</strong></th>
<th>100% of students must achieve 77% or higher on the Project Paper.</th>
<th>With each graduating class</th>
<th><strong>With each graduating class</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| a) DNP 808 Project Paper | 100% of students must achieve 77% or higher on the Poster Presentation. | **2020** | a) Project Paper 100%  
 b) Poster Presentation 100%  
 c) Results pending |
| b) DNP 807 Poster Presentation | | | |
| **Indirect Assessment:** | | | |
| c) Alumni Evaluation of EOPSLOs Survey | 80% of graduates agree or strongly agree with achievement of the EOPSLO | Annually | **2020** |

**2020**
DNP ad hoc committee to meet each semester to review student progress, student project/site issues, and PICOT questions.

**Revisions:**
Frequent meetings with course coordinators and the student chairs to assess and revise problems as needed to streamline assignments and address redundancy.

Increased Rigor of scientific writing and expectations for APA 7th edition formatting.

Course instructor and DNP project chair to coordinate to review evidence-based...
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EOPSLO #4</th>
<th>Direct Assessment:</th>
<th>100% of students must achieve 77% or higher on the Project Paper.</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>a) Project Paper 100% b) Poster Presentation 100% c) Results pending</th>
<th>synthesis and PICOT question. Faculty chairs will be assigned with the incoming classes by the Director.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Utilizes information systems and technology to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations.</td>
<td>a) DNP 808 Project Paper</td>
<td>With each graduating class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b) DNP 807 Poster Presentation</td>
<td>With each graduating class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Indirect Assessment:</strong></td>
<td>80% of graduates agree or strongly agree with achievement of the EOPSLO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c) Alumni Evaluation of EOPSLOs Survey</td>
<td>Annually</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EOPSLO #5</th>
<th>Direct Assessment:</th>
<th>100% of students must achieve 77% or higher on the Project Paper.</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>a) Project Paper 100% b) Poster Presentation 100% c) Results pending</th>
<th>The DNP Poster Presentation was held virtually due to the global pandemic. All Nursing faculty were in attendance as the graduating students presented the posters and work on their individual projects.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrates leadership and advocacy in facilitating positive healthcare change to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations.</td>
<td>a) DNP 808 Project Paper</td>
<td>With each graduating class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b) DNP 807 Poster Presentation</td>
<td>With each graduating class</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Indirect Assessment:</strong></td>
<td>80% of graduates agree or strongly agree with achievement of the EOPSLO</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c) Alumni Evaluation of EOPSLOs Survey</td>
<td>Annually</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EOPSLO #6</th>
<th>Direct Assessment:</th>
<th>100% of students must achieve 77% or higher on the Project Paper.</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>a) Project Paper 100% b) Poster Presentation 100% c) Results pending</th>
<th>IRB process is working well with the streamlined form to the IRB Committee.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employs effective interprofessional communication and collaboration to improve healthcare services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations.</td>
<td>a) DNP 808 Project Paper</td>
<td>With each graduating class</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b) DNP 807 Poster Presentation</td>
<td>With each graduating class</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
emphasize on rural populations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>EOPSLO #7</strong></th>
<th><strong>Direct Assessment:</strong></th>
<th><strong>Indirect Assessment:</strong></th>
<th><strong>2020</strong></th>
<th><strong>2020</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implement systems changes that advocate health-care prevention to improve health-care services to patients, families, and populations with an emphasis on rural populations.</td>
<td>a) DNP 808 Project Paper</td>
<td>c) Alumni Evaluation of EOPSLOs Survey</td>
<td>a) Project Paper 100%</td>
<td>Students are encouraged to implement changes that advocate for and improve health-care services to patients, families, and populations. Rural health focus is important as 46/46 counties in South Carolina are currently underserved.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) DNP 807 Poster Presentation</td>
<td>100% of students must achieve 77% or higher on the Project Paper.</td>
<td>80% of graduates agree or strongly agree with achievement of the EOPSLO</td>
<td>b) Poster Presentation 100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indirect Assessment:</strong></td>
<td>With each graduating class</td>
<td>Annually</td>
<td>c) Results pending</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100% of students must achieve 77% or higher on the Poster Presentation.</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>80% of graduates agree or strongly agree with achievement of the EOPSLO</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Action Items:**

- Will continue to have a breakout session for MSN/DNP students to orient students to the specific demands of a fast-paced doctoral program.
- Encourage Part-time attendance if needed.
- Advisors will be assigned by the Director of the MSN/DNP program as advisor chairs during the admission process. Every attempt will be made to link students to advisors with expertise in the project area of interest.
- With the new AACN Essentials changing to Domains there will be curriculum changes coming after the NTF information is published.

**Executive Summary of Report (one-page maximum)**
The mission statement for the Department of Nursing is consistent and pertains to all levels of nursing students (BSN, MSN, and DNP). The themes of the program learning outcomes are consistent with doctoral nursing competencies and skills and are congruent with the end-of-program student learning outcomes being formulated from the Essential of Doctoral Education published by the American Academy of Colleges of Nursing (AACN, 2006). The program
assessment methods are directly related to the program learning outcomes and the end-of-program SLOs. The end-of-program SLOs assessment is an evidence-based practice project that is completed for a clinical nursing quality improvement project.

Each course in the MSN/DNP program concentrates on a specific part of the project. The benchmark was set through analysis of the other graduate programs at FMU School of Health Sciences and attainment was based on the first MSN/DNP cohort. The MSN/DNP program began in December of 2018 with seven graduates. The second cohort graduated three students in December 2019. The third cohort graduated two students in December 2020. Currently there are seven MSN/DNP students set to graduate in Summer Semester 2021. One MSN/DNP is off track and will not graduate until 2022.

Appendix
- Francis Marion Graduate Student Handbook (current edition available online).