SPECIAL NOTE:
This brief syllabus is not intended to be a legal contract. A full syllabus will be distributed to students at the first class session.

TEXT AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS USED IN THE COURSE (if any):
Please check with the LCC bookstore http://www.labette.edu/bookstore for the required texts for this class.

COURSE NUMBER: PTA 101
COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO PTA
SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 5 (31.5 Contact hours; 31 Lab hours)
DEPARTMENT: Health Science
DIVISION: Career Technical Education
PREREQUISITE: Admission to PTA Program

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course is designed to teach physical therapist assistant students the roles and responsibilities of the PTA, basic communication skills for the healthcare provider, documentation, teaching and learning, safety, and patient handling techniques. Students will be provided an overview of the history and development of physical therapist and the physical therapist assistant. Professional behaviors will be introduced.

COURSE OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES:
Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

1. Displays an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the PTA. Describe the role of the physical therapist assistant in the health care delivery system.
   - Describes the relationship between the physical therapist and the physical therapist assistant in which the physical therapist assistant works under the supervision and direction of the physical therapist.
   - Describe the roles and responsibilities of the physical therapist, physical therapist assistant, and other health care providers in patient/client care.
   - Describes the role of the physical therapist assistant in promotion of healthy lifestyles, wellness, and injury prevention.
   - Demonstrates behavior consistent with the role of the physical therapist assistant.
• Demonstrates an awareness of social responsibility, citizenship and advocacy, including participation in community and service organizations and activities: which includes, but is not limited to; attending a KPTA/APTA event as a PTA student and maintaining APTA/KPTA membership while enrolled in the program.
• Prepare a poster that educates the community about the role of the Physical Therapist and Physical Therapist Assistant in one of the following areas: acute care, pediatrics, orthopedics, sports medicine, nursing homes, schools or neurological rehabilitation.
• Describe the activities of and the benefits of membership in the American Physical Therapist Association.
• Identify career development and lifelong learning opportunities for the PTA.
• List the requirements for becoming a clinical instructor and an APTA credentialed Clinical Instructor.
• Recognizes the role of the PTA in the clinical education of PTA students.
• Discuss HIPAA and the responsibilities of the PTA in maintaining confidentiality.
• List the elements contained in the Patient’s Bill of Rights.
• List the key components of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
• Identify the signs of abuse (child/elder/other).
• Describe the responsibilities of the PTA in reporting suspected abuse.
• List the appropriate contacts for reporting suspected abuse.
• Abides by policies and procedures of the facility.
• Adheres to legal standards including all federal, state/providence, and institutional regulations related to patient care and fiscal management.
• Compare and contrast the State Practice of Act of Kansas in the roles of the Physical Therapist and the PTA.
• Identify and list the PTA Standards of Ethical conduct.

2. Communicates with the patient, the physical therapist, healthcare delivery personnel and others in an effective, appropriate and capable manner.

• Demonstrate active listening skills that reveal understanding of content and feeling.
• Display sensitivity to cultural influences through careful selection of words and nonverbal elements of communication.
• Speak with clarity and organization of thought to convey meaning.
• Recognize and respond to the body language of others.
• Display sensitivity to cultural influences through nonverbal elements of communication.
• Recognize the positive and negative effects that one’s touch may have on an individual’s emotions and behaviors.
• Develop rapport with patients/clients and others to promote confidence.
• Actively listen and display sensitivity to the needs of others.
• Asks questions in a manner that elicits needed responses.
• Modify communication to meet the needs of the audience, demonstrating respect for the knowledge and experience of others.
• Demonstrate congruence between verbal and non-verbal messages.
• List psychosocial issues that may affect the patient’s progression with an intervention.
• Identify when a referral to another discipline is indicated.
• Define Evidenced Based Practice (EBP).
• Describe the principles on which EBP is based.
• Describe how EBP is used to support the delivery of physical therapy services.
• Describe the role of the PTA in EBP.
• Identify different resources for obtaining and using clinical evidence.
• Define various terms related to research methodology.
• Using a research article identify the level of evidence, types of data and measurement used, the subjects and sampling techniques used and identify the results in terms of descriptive statistics. Describe how this article may be used clinically.
• Identify three personal stereotypes or preconceptions.
• Identify strategies for addressing personal stereotypes or preconceptions in order to provide a competent and professional approach to patient care.

3. Review the plan of care established by the physical therapist prior to initiating patient/client interventions.
• Describe the relationship between the physical therapist’s examination and evaluation and the implementation of the physical therapist’s plan of care.
• Communicate an understanding of the plan of care developed by the physical therapist to achieve short and long term goals and intended outcomes.
• Describe the components of a medical record and how to access medical and patient/client information from that record.
• Identify pertinent information related to intervention from the medical record.
• Identify indications, contraindications, precautions, safety considerations, and expected outcomes for interventions.
• Define the elements of the patient/client management model.
• Identify the elements of the patient/client management model that may be directed to the physical therapist assistant.
• Identify information that the physical therapist assistant should communicate to the physical therapist to assist in the achievement of patient/client goals.
• List the determinants that indicate that a patient is progressing or not progressing toward the established goals.
• Recognize the potential for conflict.
• Implement strategies to prevent and/or resolve conflict.
• Identify resources to resolve conflict when necessary.
• Describe the chain of command in various facilities and clinics.
• Interacts with other members of the healthcare team in patient care and non-patient care activities.
• Describe how to recognize when the direction to perform an intervention is beyond that which is appropriate for a PTA and what action should be taken.
4. Demonstrates adherence to critical safety elements of patient care.

- List the components of risk management.
- List the common immunization requirements for healthcare workers.
- Identify rationale for immunization requirements.
- Demonstrate proper hand washing technique.
- Define and demonstrate universal precautions.
- Define sterile technique used in wound care.
- Identify when to use the universal precautions.
- Responds to emergency situations in a safe and effective manner.
- Prepare and maintain a safe working environment for performing interventions.

5. Assesses aerobic capacity and endurance, performs anthropometrical measures and a pain assessment.

- List physical signs that measures functions that are essential to life, the vital signs, and give normal values for each sign.
- Measures standard vital signs.
- Define orthostatic hypotension and list the changes in position that may produce a drop in blood pressure.
- Discuss ways to help a patient manage orthostatic hypotension.
- Recognizes and monitors responses to positional changes and activities.
- Observes and monitors thoraco-abdominal movements and breathing patterns with activity.
- Describe chest wall expansion and excursion.
- Monitor and determine respiratory status, pulse ox, rate, rhythm and pattern.
- Recognizes cyanosis.
- Describes cough and sputum characteristics.
- Recognizes activities that aggravate or relieve edema, pain, dyspnea or other symptoms.
- Measures height, weight, length and girth.
- Administers standardized questionnaires, graphs, behavioral scales or visual analog scales for pain.
- Define location and intensity of pain.
- Recognizes activities, positioning and postures that aggravate or relieve pain or altered sensations or can produce associated skin trauma.
- Recognizes changes in the direction and magnitude of patient's state of arousal, mentation and cognition.
- Takes appropriate action in an emergency situation.

6. Recognize and describe abnormal and normal posture and demonstrate safe and effective lifting and transfer techniques.

- Recognizes alignment of trunk and extremities at rest and during activities.
- Identify lifting principles and techniques.
- Demonstrate safe lifting principles and techniques.
- Teach safe lifting principles and techniques.
• Demonstrate safe techniques for pushing, pulling, reaching and carrying.
• Teach safe techniques for pushing, pulling, reaching and carrying.
• Determine the ability to use proper body mechanics during functional activities.
• Performs body mechanics training.
• Demonstrates safe use of a gait belt.
• Demonstrate safe positioning in bed and in a wheelchair/chair.
• Demonstrates safe bed mobility techniques.
• Demonstrate safe sit<>stand techniques from various surfaces.
• Demonstrate safe bed mobility with a simulated patient/client.
• Demonstrate safe pivot transfers from various sitting surfaces.
• Demonstrate safe sliding board transfers.
• Demonstrate safe total lift transfers.
• Demonstrate safe floor transfers.
• Demonstrate safe use of a Hoyer lift.

7. Demonstrates safe ambulation techniques.
• Confirms appropriate fit of various assistive devices.
• Identifies various weight-bearing status terms.
• Teaches safe use of a gait belt.
• Identifies the elements required to care for assistive devices.
• Recognizes safety factors while using an assistive device.
• Demonstrates safe ambulation using a variety of assistive devices on all terrain including stairs.
• Teaches another person safe ambulation using a variety of assistive devices on all terrain including stairs.
• List indicators of when a patient is ready to advance their ambulation status.
• Demonstrate ambulation with various weight-bearing restrictions.
• Teaches ambulation with various weight-bearing restrictions.
• Demonstrates transfers using a variety of assistive devices while observing various weight-bearing restrictions.
• Teaches transfers using a variety of assistive devices while observing various weight-bearing restrictions.
• Describes the level of assistance required for safe ambulation and identifies this in written and verbal communication.
• Define factors that indicate the patient’s readiness to advance to an assistive device that is less restrictive and communicates this to the supervising physical therapist.
• List the components involved in determining a patient’s functional status.

8. Identifies special equipment and patient care environments.
• Demonstrate use of a basic hospital bed.
• Identify various specialty beds and their uses.
• Demonstrate management of various tubes and catheters during bed mobility, transfers and gait training.
• List the requirements of fitting a wheelchair to a patient.
- Demonstrate management and mobility of a wheelchair.
- Teach wheelchair mobility and management to a simulated patient and a simulated caregiver.
- Identifies the level of assistance required for safe wheelchair mobility and identifies this in written and verbal communication.
- Identify adaptive equipment and assistive devices and their uses.
- Inspects skin condition while using devices and equipment.
- Instruct a simulated patient and/or caregiver in use of and safety with adaptive equipment and assistive devices.
- Identify orthotic and prosthetic devices, protective devices and supportive devices.
- Instruct a simulated patient or caregiver in use of and safety with braces and supports including skin checks.
- Measure for lower and upper extremity braces and supports.
- Assure proper fit of braces and supports.
- Instruct a simulated patient or caregiver in use of and safety with various braces and supports including skin checks.
- Demonstrate donning a doffing of oxygen delivery systems.
- Demonstrate use of an oxygen tank.

- Identify the components of a treatment summary.
- Write a comprehensive treatment note.
- Identify the components of a progress summary.
- Write a progress summary with outcomes measures.
- Documents thoroughly, accurately, logically, concisely timely and legibly according to jurisdictional law, practice guidelines, policies, codes of ethics, and facility policies.
- Uses proper grammar, syntax and punctuation in communication using appropriate terminology and institutionally approved abbreviations.
- List the steps for changing the plan of care under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist.
- Identify the CPT codes that best describe therapeutic interventions used to treat patients.
- Discuss how payment policy can affect patient outcomes.
- List ways in which the PTA participates in performance improvement activities.

10. Participates in educating patients and caregivers as directed by the supervising physical therapist.
- Identify learning styles.
- List strategies for teaching and learning using a learning styles model.
- Apply principles of learning using a variety of teaching strategies during patient instruction.
- Apply methods to enhance compliance.
- Determine patient response/understanding of instructions.
- Recognize opportunities to educate the public or patients about issues of health, wellness and prevention and communicate this opportunity to the physical therapist.