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: SOCI 122
COURSE TITLE: BASIC HELPING SKILLS
SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 3
DEPARTMENT: Sociology
DIVISION: General Education
PREREQUISITES: None
CO-REQUISITE: Basic Helping Skills Experience (SOCI 123)
REVISION DATE: October 2013

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course combines the theories of social work practice with the learning of social work practice skills using common models and theoretical frameworks. This course presents ecological models, the strength-based, problem-solving process, dominant brief therapies, and cultural competence as approaches to practice in social work. This course presents and provides structured practice of the fundamental interpersonal skills required for effective social work practice. The course teaches interviewing skills and critical thinking about interview processes, (from intake through termination and evaluation) and focuses primarily on using those skills with individuals. The models, theories, and processes learned in this course serve as the foundation for generalist practice with individuals, families, groups, and communities. This class will give students an opportunity to practice these skills in a laboratory setting on a weekly basis. This class also includes a 48-hour volunteer experience in a social agency.
**COURSE OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES:**
Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

1. **Identify as a professional social worker and conduct oneself accordingly.**
   - Appraise the congruence between the profession’s values and their personal values.
   - Illustrate the importance of both personal and professional growth throughout one’s professional life.

2. **Apply social work ethical principles to guide professional practice.**
   - Demonstrate awareness of self and others in the helping relationship.
   - Employ interviewing skills.
   - Identify and respond to nonverbal behaviour.

3. **Engage diversity and difference in practice.**
   - Employ sensitivity to the values, beliefs, and behaviors of cultural/minority groups served in social work practice.
   - Demonstrate skills in the helping process with diverse clients.

4. **Understand the fundamental theories and models used in generalist practice.**
   - Recognize major issues of generalist practice, including domestic violence, child abuse and neglect, chemical dependency, mental illness, depression and suicide, legal issues, case and class advocacy, and working with involuntary clients.
   - Examine the importance of research to the development and evaluation of social work theory and practice.