

M.A.C.T.E Infant and Toddler (prenatal to 3 years) Program

Total Duration: 1-3 years
Minimum of 600 Academic/Contact Hours

Courses (200+Hrs.):

Typical Range, 200-400+hrs

Practicum (400+hrs.)

Typical Range, 500-600+hrs

Course Overview:

Montessori Philosophy & Human Development

Topics:

Montessori History & Philosophy
Human Development
Theories of Child Development
Special Needs
Brain Development

Classroom Leadership & Program Management

Topics:

Classroom Management
Observation Techniques
Record Keeping
School Administration & Program Management
Self-Knowledge
Child Assessment

Curriculum Implementation:

Topics:

Practical Life Curriculum:
Sensorial Curriculum
Concept Development
Gross & Fine Motor Development & Developmental Aids
Language Curriculum
Classroom Management/Positive Discipline
Environmental Design
Identifying and Supporting Concentration
Identifying and Supporting Play/Engagement

Community Involvement & Partnership with Families

Topics:

Parent Education, Involvement & Support
Cultural Awareness
Conferences

Student Teaching & Observation

Practicum hours do not include, independent research, material making, album preparation and/or examinations.

Program Ties to Core Knowledge Categories:

Learning Environments & Curriculum
Human Growth & Development
Health, Safety & Nutrition
Observation & Assessment
Personal, Professional & Leadership Development
Families & Community Systems
Diversity
Program Management
Special Needs
Understanding & Guiding Behavior

Course Category: Montessori Philosophy and Pedagogy I & II

Minimum Course Topics & Description: Montessori's principles and ideas, her view of the nature of the child and the child's place in society, with emphasis on Montessori's concept of the child from birth to three. Scientific analysis of how to nurture and assist the unfolding of the human personality; care of physical and psychological needs; daily routines as curriculum; strategies for assistance; interaction techniques with children; positive communication, with emphasis on personal development of the adult caregiver and the qualities of the adult based on Montessori's view of the child; developmental assessment and recordkeeping.

Hours 45-75+hrs

Course Work Examples:

- > Reading & Reports from Montessori Literature
- > Reading & Reports from Historical Theories of Development
- > Child Development Study
- > Self-Reflection, Introspection and Self-Evaluation

Competencies/Assessment:

- > Class participation and note taking
- > Completion and Review of Album (Resource Manual)
- > Essay; written and/oral quiz; multiple choice & short answer test
- > Rationale Paper
- > Minimum of 3 Field Supervision Evaluation Reports

Core Knowledge Categories:

- Human Growth and Development
- Learning Environments and Curriculum
- Personal, Professional & Leadership Development
- Understanding & Guiding Behavior

Level of Content: Set One and Two

Course Outcomes:

- a. Demonstrates an understanding of and implements Montessori philosophy with a focus on the early childhood years.
- b. Comprehends and utilizes an understanding of the stages of human growth, development and educational theories with an emphasis from prenatal to three (3) years of age.
- c. Demonstrates evidence of personal growth through self-evaluation and introspection.
- d. Demonstrates knowledge of developmental and behavioral norms and potential recommendations toward early intervention services.

Course Category: Child Development: Prenatal-Six Years

Minimum Course Topics & Description: Montessori's theories of the planes of development and the nature of the child, current child development perspectives including major contemporary theorists including social and emotional, cognitive, physiological (physical, neurological, nutritional), prenatal development and childbirth are examined.

Hours 35-50+hrs

Course Work Examples:

- > Reading & Reports from Montessori Literature
- > Reading & Reports from Historical Theories of Development
- > Child Development Study

Competencies/Assessment:

- > Class participation and note taking
- > Creation and Review of Album (Resource Manual)
- > Essay; written and/oral quiz; multiple choice & short answer test
- > Research Paper
- > Minimum of 3 Field Supervision Evaluation Reports

Core Knowledge Categories: Human Growth and Development
Special Needs
Understanding & Guiding Behavior

Level of Content: Set One and Two

Course Outcomes:

- a. Demonstrates an understanding of major child and human development theories as well as how they historically and pedagogically relate to Montessori philosophy.
- b. Comprehends and utilizes an understanding of the stages of human growth, development and educational theories with an emphasis from two and one-half (2 1/2) through six (6) years of age.
- c. Demonstrates evidence of personal growth through self-evaluation and introspection.
- d. Demonstrates knowledge of developmental and behavioral norms and potential recommendations toward early intervention services.

Course Category: Classroom Leadership & Program Administration

Minimum Course Topics & Description: Classroom management techniques including rationale for staff scheduling and creating daily schedules for the child; an introduction to administrative issues, including financial, budgetary fee factors, funding and proposal writing, personnel matters, legislation and standards; identification of criteria for defining Montessori child care; historical foundations rooted in Montessori; human needs and requirements (children, families and staff) specific to all-day care.

Hours 25-40+hrs

Course Work Examples: > Written Observation Reports from Montessori & Non-Montessori Classrooms
> Creation of Administrative Album (Resource Material)

Competencies/Assessment: > Class participation and note taking
> Creation and Review of Album (Resource Manual)
> Minimum of 3 Field Supervision Evaluation Reports
> Self-Reflection, Introspection and Self-Evaluation

Core Knowledge Categories: Observation and Assessment
Diversity
Personal, Professional & Leadership Development
Program Management

Level of Content: Set One and Two

Course Outcomes:

- a. Demonstrate observation, documentation and analytical skills necessary for planning and recording the progress of children.
- b. Utilizes cultural sensitivity in support of the development of individual children.
- c. Demonstrates an ability to implement effective classroom strategies.
- d. Demonstrates leadership skills and an understanding of professional standards.
- e. Incorporates an understanding of administrative functions.

Course Category: **Community Involvement and Partnership with Families**

Minimum Course Topics & Description: Presentation of current research as it relates to cultural diversity; Self-reflection on cultural bias; Practices utilized when involving, supporting and educating parents in the Montessori method; techniques in listening and communicating effectively with parents and community; Preparation for parent conferences.

Hours 10-40+hrs

Course Work Examples:

- > Reading & Reports from current research & applicable literature
- > Classroom observation in Montessori environment
- > Conference, meeting and event role-play and/or presentation

Competencies/Assessment:

- > Class participation and note taking
- > Completion and Review of Album (Resource Manual)
- > Minimum of 3 Field Supervision Evaluation Reports
- > Self-Reflection, Introspection and Self-Evaluation

Core Knowledge Categories:

- Diversity
- Families & Community Systems
- Personal, Professional & Leadership Development

Level of Content: Set One and Two

Course Outcomes:

- a. Demonstrates cultural sensitivity in communications and work with families and children.
- b. Demonstrates an awareness of community resources for additional support of children and families.
- c. Identifies and has an awareness of available professional associations.

Course Category: Personal Growth and Observation

Minimum Course Topics & Description: Observation includes techniques of observation and program staff-supervised observations of infants and toddlers within various settings. Personal growth and development includes professionalism, introspection, the continued spiritual growth of the adult, and ethical behavior.

Hours 35-55+hrs

Course Work Examples:

- > Observations within Infant and Toddler Montessori environments
- > Creation of Resource Manual
- > Class participation and note taking

Competencies/Assessment:

- > Class participation and note taking
- > Completion and Review of Album (Resource Manual)
- > Oral and Written Exam
- > Minimum of 3 Field Supervision Evaluations during Practicum Phase
- > Self-Reflection, Introspection and Self-Evaluation

Core Knowledge Categories: Observation and Assessment
Personal, Professional, and Leadership Development

Level of Content: Set One and Two

Course Outcomes:

- a. Demonstrate observation, documentation and analytical skills necessary for planning and recording the progress of children.
- b. Utilizes a variety of instructional strategies and assessment methods.
- c. Demonstrates leadership skills and an understanding of professional standards.

Course Category: Practicum

Minimum course Topics: The Practicum (student teaching) experience provides the adult learner with a minimum of 400 combined hours of supervised practice teaching, classroom observation, internalization of methodology and further study to best bring together Montessori educational theory and practice. The learner will participate in all facets of the 2.5 through 6 year old environment including, but not limited to environmental design, ongoing curriculum planning, material presentations, record-keeping, observation, family communication and administrative policies and procedures.

Hours 400-600+hrs

Course Work Examples:

- > Field Observations in 2.5 through 6 year old Montessori classrooms
- > Meetings with Supervising teacher
- > Observation Notes and Record-Keeping
- > Self-Reflection, Introspection and Self-Evaluation

Competencies/Assessment:

- > Notes & Reports from 3-6 Field Supervisor Observations
- > Review of classroom observation notes and record-keeping
- > Reflective Essays
- > Log of completed Practicum Hours
- > Final Oral and Written Exam

Core Knowledge Categories:

- Observation and Assessment
- Learning Environments and Curriculum
- Personal, Professional & Leadership Development
- Health, Safety and Nutrition
- Families & Community Systems
- Understanding & Guiding Behavior
- Diversity

Level of Content: Set Two

Course Outcomes:

- a. Demonstrates an understanding of and implements Montessori philosophy with a focus on the early childhood years.
- b. Comprehends and utilizes an understanding of the stages of human growth, development and educational theories with an emphasis from birth to three (3) years of age.
- c. Demonstrates evidence of personal growth through self-evaluation and introspection; refined observation and assessment skills.
- d. Demonstrates knowledge of developmental and behavioral norms and potential recommendations toward early intervention services.