

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES OF STUDY

MONTESSORI

MONT 371.SPECIAL TOPICS IN MONTESSORI

Special course designed to meet individual student's needs or to provide in-depth study on a particular topic related to Montessori. The role of research in education and applications of technology emphasized. *One to three credit hours.*

MONT 429.PRACTICUM I

This class, which meets for two weekend seminars each semester during the practicum phase, assists the novice teacher in the design of the classroom environment, establishing ground rules and effective classroom routines, developing parent communication strategies, instructional planning, observation techniques, assessment and record keeping. The student will receive guidance in creating and implementing an action research project. Prerequisite: Candidate level status and successful completion of ECED 329 with a grade of "B" or better. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 461.PRACTICUM II

This class is a continuation of Practicum I. It meets for two weekend seminars during the spring semester of the practicum phase. Prerequisite: Candidate level status and successful completion of MONT 429 with a grade of "B" or better. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 470.MONTESSORI METHODS: PRACTICAL LIFE

The exercises of Practical Life form the child's foundation. Topics include how to prepare the exercises of Practical Life, grace and courtesy, control of the person, care of the environment, and food and nutrition. Teachers will also learn how to analyze each child's development of independence that occurs from using the exercises. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 471.MONTESSORI METHODS: SENSORIAL

Teachers will learn to use the materials that aid children with the development and refinement of their senses in seven areas: size, color, form, touch, sound, smell and taste. Teachers will also learn to observe each child's development of classification and seriation, and to use the instructional strategy of the 3 Period Lesson. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 472.MONTESSORI PHILOSOPHY, EDUCATIONAL THEORY and ADMINISTRATION / PARENT EDUCATION

Topics include an historical overview of Montessori and the Montessori movement and the philosophy of the absorbent mind, sensitive periods, logical mathematical mind, spiritual and moral development of the child. The course also explores how these topics relate to children, classroom materials, peace education, the role of the teacher, and the prepared environment. Prerequisite: Instructor permission. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 473.METHODS OF OBSERVATION and CLASSROOM LEADERSHIP

This course introduces teachers to reflective practices of observation and record keeping. Being open to and being willing to be informed by observation are two important aspects of the Montessori method. Teachers will also observe other Montessori classrooms during their practicum. The classroom leadership component of this course involves student teachers with designing the prepared environment, establishing daily routines, starting a new class, lesson strategies, evaluation, positive discipline, effective communication, and problem solving. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 474.FOUNDATIONS OF READING IN THE MONTESSORI CLASSROOM

Teachers will learn how to present the Montessori language exercises to foster children's early literacy development. Topics of this course include early oral language acquisition, age-appropriate visual and auditory perceptual experiences that lead to phonemic awareness and letter-sound recognition, vocabulary development and enrichment, phonics, word study, beginning handwriting, expressive writing, and the first part of the functions of words. This course meets the SC Read to Succeed requirements. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 475.MONTESSORI METHODS: MATHEMATICS

This course begins with the philosophy of the "mathematical mind". Additional topics include numeration to 9,999 place value, linear counting, the four operations, memorization of math facts, and an introduction to fractions. Teachers will learn how to present the Mathematics materials and to observe each child's progress toward abstracting mathematical concepts. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 493.MONTESSORI METHODS: INTEGRATED CURRICULUM

The objectives of this course are to acquaint the Montessori teacher candidate with the sequence and materials for teaching social studies, science, and creative arts in the context of Montessori's "Cosmic Curriculum", a holistic approach to natural science, multicultural studies and artistic expression. Topics include the materials for geography and history, international festivals and celebrations, designing and preparing activities to acquaint children with the natural world and integration of the creative arts to enhance the classroom curriculum. ***Three credit hours.***