

GRADUATE COURSES OF STUDY

MONTESSORI

MONT 610.FOUNDATIONS OF MONTESSORI ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Sound educational practices in the Montessori classroom must be firmly grounded in the pedagogical and developmental theories of Dr. Maria Montessori. This course incorporates both aspects of Montessori's theory in a unified examination of educational practices at the elementary level. Contemporary theories of child development in the context of the Montessori classroom will also be examined. Six (6) hours of observation in Montessori elementary classrooms required. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 611.MONTESSORI METHODS: ELEMENTARY (ages 6-9) MATHEMATICS

An introduction to the primary elementary Montessori mathematics curriculum. Topics include concept of number and quantitative relationships; the four fundamental operations; the laws of arithmetic; base systems; ratio and proportion; problem solving; and exponential notation. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 612.MONTESSORI METHODS: ELEMENTARY (ages 6-9) LANGUAGE

An introduction to the lower elementary Montessori language curriculum. Topics include assisting the child's oral language expression, reading and writing, grammar functions (parts of speech), structural grammar (sentence analysis), literature, and the acquisition of library/reference and research skills. Special emphasis will be given to the integration of language activities throughout the total curriculum. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 613.INTEGRATED SOCIAL STUDIES AND SCIENCES

An overview of the Five Great Lessons presented in a 6-9 elementary I Montessori classroom, which help form the social studies curriculum, plus the earth and physical sciences frameworks for learning. Topics introduced include the fundamental needs of humans, concepts of time, theories of creation, evolution, and physical, cultural and economic geography. The introduction of physical science topics and earth science topics addressing the formation of the earth and the works of air and water will also be covered. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 614.MONTESSORI METHODS: ELEMENTARY (ages 6-9) BIOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE

An overview of the Montessori science curriculum for ages 6-9, with an emphasis on the biological sciences. Topics include classification of chordate and non-chordate animals, botany, anatomy, ecology, and the physical sciences. Integration of science topics into the elementary curriculum, with focus on writing and research will be covered. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 615.MONTESSORI METHODS: ELEMENTARY GEOMETRY

A study of the Montessori geometry curriculum for the elementary classroom. Topics include measurement, estimation, probability, fractions, nomenclature for geometric forms, lines, angles, similarity, congruence and equivalence, area and volume. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 616.MONTESSORI METHODS: ELEMENTARY CREATIVE ARTS, MOVEMENT AND PRACTICAL LIFE

This class will emphasize the integration of the arts and practical life skills into the everyday life of the elementary classroom. Students will explore various art media, craft techniques and music and movement activities. Topics include the use of technology, food preparation, construction, and outdoor skills with particular emphasis on how they can be integrated into the academic curriculum. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 617.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. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 618.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: "B" or better in MONT 617: Practicum I. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 619.MONTESSORI METHODS: UPPER ELEMENTARY (AGES 9-12) LANGUAGE II

This course is an introduction to the elementary II (9-12) Montessori language curriculum. Topics include understanding and supporting the developing reader and writer, children's research, spelling and word study, grammar, and sentence analysis. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 620.MONTESSORI METHODS: UPPER ELEMENTARY (AGES 9-12) MATHEMATICS II

This course begins with a review of the four basic operations, with an emphasis on the hierarchical value of numbers. Topics include fractions and operations, decimals and operations, measurement, binomial and trinomial squared and cubed, the deconstruction of a cube into its parts, powers and integers, exponents, signed numbers, simple algebra with signed numbers, word problems for principle, interest, and rate, ratio, and proportion. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 621.MONTESSORI METHODS: UPPER ELEMENTARY AGES (9-12) INTEGRATED SCIENCE AND SOCIAL STUDIES II

This course will present social studies, history, geography, basic physical science and earth sciences from the Montessori perspective of the Great Lessons framework. This course is a continuation of the topics covered in MONT 613, expanding on the lessons for the formation of the universe, the study of the earth's geological formation, the beginnings of biology and the study of history and human progress. Additional topics include the migration of peoples and ideals, the study of civilization, nations, and states and the interrelationship of technology. The Montessori lessons on *The Work of Wind* and *The Work of Water* will be expanded. There will be an increased emphasis on collaborative, project-based learning and opportunities for independent writing, and student research. This course is web enhanced. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 622.MONTESSORI METHODS: UPPER ELEMENTARY AGES (9-12) BIOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE II

This course is a continuation of those topics introduced in MONT 614. Building on the Great Lessons framework, it will include a comparative study of all life forms and the universal rules, which govern living and non-living matter. Content includes strategies for the development of scientific inquiry skills, student writing and the integration of science content across the curriculum. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 652.SPECIAL TOPICS IN MONTESSORI

This course is designed for a specific group of professional personnel with common concerns. Selected challenges in Montessori education will be identified, studied and resolved, at times, in consultation with other education agencies. Permission of instructor required. *One to three credit hours.*

MONT 683.MONTESSORI METHODS: PRACTICAL LIFE

The exercises of Practical Life form the child's foundation. Topics include how to prepare the exercise of Practical Life, grace and courtesy, control of movement, 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. A gradual level research component will be required. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 684.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 Three Period Lesson. A graduate level research component will be required. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 685.MONTESSORI PHILOSOPHY AND 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, and 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. A graduate level research component will be required. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 686.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 teacher with designing the prepared environment, establishing daily routines, starting a new class, lesson strategies, evaluation, positive discipline, effective communication, and problem solving. A graduate level research component will be required. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 687.MONTESSORI METHODS: LANGUAGE

Topics of this course include oral expression, age-appropriate visual and auditory perceptual experiences, vocabulary development and enrichment, work study, beginning handwriting, expressive writing, and the first part of the functions of words. Teachers will learn how to present language exercises to foster children's early literacy development. A graduate level research component will be required. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 688.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. A graduate level research component will be required. *Three credit hours.*

MONT 693.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. *Three credit hours.*