

The Master of Education Degree in Montessori Education

Admission

There are three major steps in the process for the Master of Education Degree Program in Montessori Education: initial admission, admission to program, and admission to candidacy for the master's degree.

1. **Initial Admission.** All applicants must have earned a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university and submit official transcripts of all institutions attended to the Office of Admissions. Students may submit GRE or GMAT scores, but they are not mandatory.

Candidates with an undergraduate cumulative GPA below 3.0 on a 4.0 scale may be admitted provisionally for up to 12 hours of graduate work. Provisional admission is contingent on a minimum cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale. An earned cumulative grade point average of 3.5 in the first 12 hours of Lander graduate coursework can be used for full admission to program in lieu of required scores on GRE or MAT referenced above.

Note: Students must meet initial admission requirements to the graduate program in order to be eligible for graduate departmental scholarships.

2. **Admission to Program.** After a student has completed 12 hours of graduate work from an approved program of study at Lander University and maintained an overall B average, program faculty will review the student's graduate work. A minimum of one foundation of education course must be completed prior of admission to program. If all requirements are met, the Graduate Director will then recommend the student for admission to the M.Ed. in Montessori Education program.
3. **Admission to Candidacy.** Graduate credit will be awarded for A, B, or C grades but students will be admitted to candidacy only after completing at least 24 hours of graduate courses with a GPA of 3.00 or better. A student must have no more than six credit hours with grades of "C" or lower and have a GPA of 3.0 or above to complete the M.Ed. in Montessori Education program. Program faculty will review the student's academic performance. If requirements have been met, the student will be admitted to candidacy.

Degree Requirements

1. **Admission to Candidacy.**
2. **Courses.** Completion of 36 credit hours of graduate work. A student must complete an approved program of study, have no more than six credit hours with grades of "C" and have a GPA of 3.0 or above. All work for the Master of Education degree must be completed within a period of **six years**. For degree completion, at least 27 of the total credit hours required for the degree must be earned through Lander University instruction.
3. **Cumulative Assessment.** Two cumulative projects will be completed and assessed prior to earning the M.Ed. in Montessori Education degree. The first of these is an action research project. The second cumulative assessment will be the completion of a professional Montessori portfolio that demonstrates proficiency with the competencies of the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education (MACTE) and is correlated to the four Lander learner outcomes.

Program of Study

The program of study leading to the Master of Education in Montessori Education degree consists of course work and other learning activities in the following areas *at the 600 level*:

1. **Foundations of Education --** (Core courses required of all students - 15 hours)
 - EDUC 622 Advanced Growth and Development of the Learner
 - EDUC 623 Methods and Materials of Educational Research
 - EDUC 678 Introduction to Exceptional Children, Pre-K-12
 - MONT 617 Montessori Practicum I
 - MONT 618 Montessori Practicum II

2. Curriculum and Instruction

For concentration in ages 3-6 (21 hours)

MONT 683 Montessori Methods: Practical Life (3 hours)

MONT 684 Montessori Methods: Sensorial (3 hours)

MONT 685 Montessori Philosophy and Educational Theory and Administration/Parent Education (3 hours)

MONT 686 Methods of Observation and Classroom Leadership (3 hours)

MONT 687 Montessori Methods: Language (3 hours)

MONT 688 Montessori Methods: Mathematics (3 hours)

MONT 693 Montessori Methods: Integrated Curriculum (3 hours)

For concentration in grades 1-3 (21 hours)

MONT 610 Foundations of Montessori Elementary Education (3 hours)

MONT 611 Montessori Methods: Elementary (ages 6-9) Mathematics (3 hours)

MONT 612 Montessori Methods: Elementary (ages 6-9) Language (3 hours)

MONT 613 Integrated Social Studies and Sciences (3 hours)

MONT 614 Montessori Methods: Elementary (ages 6-9) Biological and Physical Science (3 hours)

MONT 615 Montessori Methods: Elementary Geometry (3 hours)

MONT 616 Montessori Methods: Elementary Creative Arts, Movement and Practical Life (3 hours)

For concentration in grades 4-6 (24 hours)

MONT 610 Foundations of Montessori Elementary Education (3 hours)

MONT 611 Montessori Methods: Elementary (ages 6-9) Mathematics (3 hours)

MONT 620 Montessori Methods: Elementary (ages 9-12) Mathematics (3 hours)

MONT 619 Montessori Methods: Elementary (ages 9-12) Language (3 hours)

MONT 621 Integrated Social Studies and Sciences (3 hours)

MONT 622 Montessori Methods: Elementary (ages 6-9) Biological and Physical Science (3 hours)

MONT 615 Montessori Methods: Elementary Geometry (3 hours)

MONT 616 Montessori Methods: Elementary Creative Arts, Movement and Practical Life (3 hours)

3. In addition, students seeking certification at the Elementary 1 level (grades 1-3) or at the Elementary 2 level who do not hold certification for ages 3-6 must take EDUC 685 or a 3 credit hour Early Childhood Montessori Methods class to meet the Early Childhood overview requirement for the American Montessori Society.
4. Those students who complete certification requirements for Elementary 1 level (grades 1-3) may take four additional classes to add Elementary II level (grades 4-6) certification, resulting in certification for grades 1-6. These 4 classes cannot be taken without first completing the concentration for grades 1-3.

Transfer credit must be approved by the director of the Montessori program.

Senior Enrollment in Master of Education Graduate Classes

Lander University seniors meeting the accepted academic standard for graduate work (3.75 cumulative grade point average or better) are eligible to request enrollment in graduate level M.Ed. classes. Enrollment of seniors in any M.Ed. graduate course is subject to approval by the department offering the course and the Dean of the College of Education. The total course workload for the semester must not exceed 18 hours, and the total graduate credits earned by seniors must not exceed 9 credit hours. The credit and quality points associated with senior enrollment in graduate courses will not be part of the undergraduate record. Graduate hours earned by seniors must be in excess of the requirements for their undergraduate degrees; and students may request that these courses be included as part of their graduate program if they are subsequently admitted to Lander University's M.Ed. graduate program within 6 years after graduation. Courses may not be taken at the 600 level if their 400-level counterparts are required for the undergraduate degree in the same academic major as the proposed graduate degree.

Procedure for Approval

Approval by the Dean of the College of Education is required prior to registration in any M.Ed. graduate course. Only candidates who have demonstrated the capacity to meet the academic rigor of graduate level courses will be approved. Senior enrollment request forms are located at the Registrar's office.