

**EDTE 500: Foundations of the Montessori System of Education/
Philosophy and Method**
(3 credits)

Time: 8 AM- 4 PM, M-F, Summer 2010

Room: MRH127

Instructor: Dr. Silvia Dubovoy

Email: dubovoys@sandiego.edu

Office: MRH246B

Telephone: USD- (619) 260-4298 MISD- (858) 535-0500

Office Hours: By appointment.

Course Description

This course is designed to provide students with insight into the underlying theories guiding Montessori Education which will allow them to work with children and their families from birth to six years. Focus will be on understanding child psychology and child development from a Montessori perspective as well as that of new research. There will be an emphasis on early childhood education as candidates learn to understand the physical and psychological characteristics of the developing child, the importance of education from birth, how to establish collaborative parent-professional relationships and development of programs in accordance with the theories of Maria Montessori and the principles of the Montessori Method. Particular emphasis is given to children from birth to six years old.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, candidates will achieve the following outcomes:

Outcome A: Academic Excellence, Critical Inquiry and Reflection

- Each student will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the special psychological and physical characteristics of the developing human being, especially from birth to six years of age.
- Each student will understand the principal of education that starts at birth, as an aid to life, and develop a reference album with the topics related to the Montessori System of Education.
- Each student will demonstrate in home, community and preschool observations and practices their understanding of the principles and standards of the Montessori philosophy of education.

Outcome B: Community and Service

- Each student will demonstrate the ability to lecture on any of the topics.
- Each student will participate in community discussions on the principle of education as an aid to life.

Outcome C: Ethics, Values and Diversity

- Each student will employ cultural sensitive strategies when lecturing to parents, teachers and colleagues.

Course Requirements

Required Texts:

- Montanaro, Silvana Q. (1991). *Understanding the Human Being: The Importance of the First Three Years of Life*. Mountain View, CA: Nienhuis.
- Montessori, Maria. (1988). *The Absorbent Mind*. England: Clio Press.
- Montessori, Maria. (1998). *The Secret of Childhood*. London: Sangam Books Limited.
- Montessori, Maria. (1988). *The Discovery of the Child*. Oxford, England: Clio Press.
- Montessori, Maria. (1989). *The Child in the Family*. Oxford, England: Clio Press.
- Montessori, Maria. (1992). *Education and Peace*. Oxford: Clio Press.
- Montessori, Maria. (1989) *The Advanced Montessori Method Volume 1: Her Program For Educating Elementary School Children*. New York: Shocken.

Reading and Class Participation

Class members are required to independently read all assigned materials and to prepare for discussions of the readings before coming to class. Active participation in every class session is expected.

Reference Albums

Students will be expected to develop a reference album with essays, pictures, and supplemental material based on the lectures, books, and articles discussed during the course.

Exam

There will be a comprehensive written exam given during the week of July 26-30, as a preparation for the AMI written exams the following summer.

Assessment Criteria

Notes for Theory Album: 25%

Theory Album: 35%

Exam: 25%

Participation: 15%

Grading

A	=	94-100%
A-	=	90-93%
B+	=	87-89%
B	=	83-86%
B-	=	80-82%
C+	=	76-79%
C	=	73-75%
C-	=	69-72%
D+	=	66-68%
D	=	63-65%
D-	=	60-62%
F	=	Below 59%

Class Schedule

<u>Session</u>	<u>Topic Activity</u>	<u>Assignments</u>
1	Introduction Course Requirements	
2	History of The Montessori Method	S.CH. Ch. 1-3
3	History of Assistants to Infancy	Notes
4	Human Tendencies	AMI Pamphlet
5	Four Planes of Development	AMI Pamphlet
6	Absorbent Mind & Sensitive Periods	A.M. Ch. 1-6
7	Adaptation & Spiritual/Psychic Embryo	A.M. Ch. 3-4
8	Psycho-sensory Motor Development	U. H. B.
9	Development of Independence	A.M. Ch. 7
10	Development of Movement & Will	A.M. Ch. 8
11	Development of Language	A.M. Ch. 9
12	Deviations and Normalization*	A.M. Ch. 10
13	Freedom and Limits	A.M. Ch. 11
14	Social Development*	A.M. Ch.12
15	Spiritual and Practical Preparation*	A.M. Ch.13

* Lectures 12, 14, and 15 will be given during Summer 2011.