AUSTIN – Montessori Primary Teacher Training


Location: Parmer Children’s Montessori Academy  
1701 Scofield Lane, Austin 78727  
512-836-7262 Saturdays 9 am-6 pm $300 each module

The Montessori Primary Teacher Training Program is rooted in the traditional concepts developed by Dr. Maria Montessori and in her belief that, “there are many who hold as I do, that the most important period of life is not the age of university studies, but the first one, the period from birth to the age of six. For that is the time when man’s intelligence itself, his greatest implement is being formed.”

This 120-hour certification program is designed to prepare individuals for instructional positions within primary Montessori programs and schools (3-to 6-year olds).

Instruction focuses on classroom management techniques, child development, and the Montessori philosophy. The program is presented in five, 24-hour modules. Three hours of each 8 hour class session will be devoted to the study of Montessori philosophy and classroom management techniques.

Module 1: Practical Life Exercises
The first module in the Montessori Pre-Primary Teacher Training Program focuses on curriculum activities designed to prepare the child for real life experiences and to develop the child's independence and self-confidence. The individual exercises develop the child's hand-eye coordination, large and small muscle control, care of self and the environment.

Sessions 1 & 2 - September 14, 2013  
Sessions 3 & 4 - September 28, 2013  
Sessions 5 & 6 - October 12, 2013

Module 2: Sensorial Exercises
The second module of the Montessori Pre-Primary Teacher Training Program focuses on curriculum and exercises to introduce the young child to his five senses and assist him in developing these senses to observe and make discoveries in learning.

Sessions 1 & 2 - October 26, 2013  
Sessions 3 & 4 - November 9, 2013  
Sessions 5 & 6 - November 23, 2013
Module 3: Language Exercises
The third module of the Montessori Primary Teacher Training Program is centered on the language materials and exercises offer a systematical breakdown of the essential elements of reading, emphasizing the fundamentals of the phonics approach to reading. The individual exercises develop the child's vocabulary, writing and reading skills. The exercises include a variety of gross and fine motor skill activities that help the child to develop hand and eye coordination used in the formation of letters for writing.

Sessions 1 & 2 – January 11, 2014
Sessions 3 & 4 – January 25, 2014
Sessions 5 & 6 – February 8, 2014

Module 4: Math Exercises
Instruction in the fourth module of the training program focuses on activities and exercises that introduce the child to counting, the numerical symbols, and the four basic mathematical operations. These concepts are introduced to the child through the use of concrete materials. The child obtains a visual concept of the math operations.

Sessions 1 & 2 – February 22, 2014
Sessions 3 & 4 – March 1, 2014
Sessions 5 & 6 – March 15, 2014

Module 5: Geography/Cultural
Instruction focuses on exercises that introduce the young child to his environment and culture and then expands to other countries and cultures. This study begins with introducing the child to a series of globes, and terms such as continents and oceans, etc. The child furthers his studies with the use of puzzle maps, flags, land forms, classified nomenclature cards, and basic science concepts.

Sessions 1 & 2 - April 5, 2014
Sessions 3 & 4 - April 26, 2014
Sessions 5 & 6 - May 3, 2014

Written Exams will be held on Saturday, May 17th, 9:00 am - 1:00pm
Instructor: Deborah Herrington

Deborah Herrington holds a bachelor of science in education from Abilene Christian University. She also holds a Texas teaching certificate in elementary education and music. She received Montessori training from A.M.I. and Certification through the Contemporary Montessori Education Program. For 10 years she owned and operated a Montessori school for children two years through sixth grade. She is the author of Paper Works for the Montessori Classroom and Paper Works II. In 1994 she began teaching the Montessori Teacher Training Program through North Lake and Brookhaven colleges. While teaching at Brookhaven, she was nominated for Instructor of the Year. She has been working in the field of education for more than 25 years.

Tuition and Registration

Tuition for each module is $300. There also will be a $100 fee paid to the instructor for the written and oral exams that will be offered after you have completed all modules.

Admission Requirements

- High School Diploma or Equivalency (College preferred)
- Must speak and write in English

Information needed per student:

Legal Name
Social security number
Birthdate
Address (Can be your home or your school)
Email and phone
Training Requirements

- Satisfactory attendance to class sessions
- Prepare **six reference notebooks**, one for each module including an additional Montessori Philosophy and Classroom Management Reference Book. (A set of all the class notes are available at cost during the first class session of each module).
- Complete a total of five typed essays, one due at the last class session of each module.
- Create 10 handmade instructional materials to be used in a Montessori primary classroom.
- Complete an Internship in a Montessori Primary classroom (3-to-6-year-olds), under the supervision of a certified Montessori director. (At least 800 hours, more preferred).
- Keep a journal of presentations and responsibilities you were given while completing your internship. Directors and guides will be asked to fill out an evaluation form on your performance.
- Tour various schools in the area and write detailed notes of your tour and classroom observations. (Minimum of 10 hours).
- Achieve a score of 70 or above on a comprehensive written exam. Study questions and answers are given at the conclusion of each module.
- Take an oral exam, which includes presentations of two lessons from each of the five areas. It is important to be able to pronounce all of the phonetic sounds used to teach reading, therefore each student will also present to the instructor the moveable alphabet and it correct usage (score of 70 or above required on all oral presentations).

Required Reading:

*Dr. Montessori’s Own Handbook*. Author: Dr. Maria Montessori

*The Montessori Method*. Author: Dr. Maria Montessori

*Montessori Today*. Author: Paula Polk Lillard

*Maria Montessori: Her Life and Work*. Author: E.M. Standing

All of the individual lessons using the Montessori materials have been videotaped and may be purchased for a minimum cost. Students may not purchase a video/DVD without first attending classes for the module. Video/DVDs are for the purpose of oral exam preparation.