



Course Descriptions

Foundations of Montessori Philosophy

The Foundations course covers the life of Dr. Maria Montessori as well as her inclusion within an educational point of view, beginning with Pestalozzi, Rousseau, and Piaget. The course discusses similarities between Montessori philosophy and current educational philosophies, such as constructivism and Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences. Highlights of Dr. Montessori's philosophy of education are discussed. Finally, the course covers important information for teachers on how to implement the Montessori philosophy in the creative tension between philosophy and practice.

Observation and Child Development

Participants will be asked to reflect on the art and science of observation, a critical part of any Montessori learning environment. The course will highlight actual Montessori classes in action as well as illustrate the dynamics of educator and student interaction. Participants will observe children in actual classrooms at the early childhood and elementary levels and will be asked to give summaries of their observations on various aspects of observation. The course will be interspersed with readings from Dr. Montessori's writings on will, imagination, discipline, normalization, and other important topics relating to understanding the children in our care.

Mathematics - Numeration and the Decimal System

The course covers the introduction to math for elementary students in a Montessori setting. Simple counting and skip counting using Montessori materials are highlighted as well as an introduction to the decimal system and beginning operations of addition using the Golden Bead material. The unit also includes lectures on the philosophy and scope and sequence of the Montessori mathematics curriculum.

Mathematics - Operations with Whole Numbers

This course covers presentations on the Montessori materials for addition and multiplication. Materials for operations and memorization are demonstrated. Video lectures on the philosophy and scope and sequence of the Montessori mathematics curriculum are repeated.

Mathematics - Advanced Operations with Whole Numbers

The course covers presentations on the Montessori materials for subtraction and division. Materials for operations and memorization are demonstrated. This course also introduces Decurion multiplication and division, which involves presentations using 2-digit multipliers and divisors. Video lectures on the philosophy and scope and sequence of the Montessori mathematics curriculum are repeated.

Mathematics - Geometry, Perimeter, Area and Volume

This course covers visual discrimination of two and three dimensional forms, the beginning study of lines, angles, polygons, and circles as well as perimeter, area, and volume using Montessori geometry materials. The unit also includes lectures on the philosophy and scope and sequence of the Montessori mathematics curriculum.

Mathematics - Fractions and Decimals

This course covers presentations with the Montessori materials on fraction equivalency, operations with fractions, and an introduction to decimal fractions. Video lectures on the philosophy and scope and sequence of the Montessori mathematics curriculum are repeated.

Mathematics - Decimal Fractions and Algebra

This course covers presentations of the Montessori materials of decimals, percents, and introduces algebra with presentations on squaring. This course also introduces Dr. Henry Borenson's materials called Hands-on Equations, which introduce algebraic equalities to young children. Video lectures on the philosophy and scope and sequence of the Montessori mathematics curriculum are repeated.

Course Descriptions

Language - Correct Expression, Handwriting, and Whole Language

This course covers the development of oral language and correct expression in young children as well as instruction on beginning handwriting skills using Montessori metal inset and sandpaper letter materials. This course also covers reading across the curriculum using whole language technique as well as the philosophy and scope and sequence of the Montessori language curriculum.

Language - Phonics, Spelling, and Punctuation

This course covers presentations introducing the study of phonics (English), spelling, syllabication, affixes, and punctuation. Video lectures on the philosophy and scope and sequence of the Montessori language curriculum are repeated.

Language - Grammar Materials, Sentence Analysis, and Working with Older Students

This course covers the first study of grammar for elementary students using the Montessori grammar symbol and grammar box materials. The unit also includes lectures on sentence analysis materials, advanced grammar symbols, study of verb tenses, and working with older children as well as video lectures on the philosophy and scope and sequence of the Montessori language curriculum.

Cultural Studies - The Big Picture of the Universe

This course covers the story of the universe and study of astronomy for elementary children. The unit also includes lectures introducing chemical elements, the components of and the relationship between energy and mass, as well as the philosophy and scope and sequence of the Montessori cultural curriculum.

Cultural Studies - Earth History and the Story of Life, Human Civilization

This course presents the story of life, including the Timeline of Earth History and the Timeline of Life, the Kingdoms of Life that introduce scientific classification and nomenclature, the study of physical and political geography, Imaginary Island studies, and the Timeline of Humans.

Educator Practicum

This course will support Montessori educators in their first years of teaching in an actual learning environment.

The first part of the practicum course includes lectures on getting through the first year, creation of assignments to satisfy certification requirements, philosophy of the practicum, and advice on working with co- and supervising educators.

The second part of the course focuses on teaching exceptional student education, classroom management and following the child, school leadership, and record keeping. Although this is a semester course, many of the videos describe a two-year experience, which is highly recommended.

Practical Applications for Administrators

This course is designed for administrators and instructional leaders who are not working directly in a class setting. This course focuses on school leadership, understanding the Montessori scope and sequence, empowering staff, exceptional student education, record keeping, and a further overview of Montessori philosophy. Assignments include observations of various models of Montessori schools, interviews with school leaders, designing a plan to balance both personal and professional obligations/responsibilities, and a reflection on the practice of leadership.



Mary Beth Sullivan

Mary-Beth Sullivan has been a Montessori Elementary Educator since 1999. She is a certified AMS teacher for Elementary I-II. She is also a certified Florida Elementary K-6 teacher.

Mary-Beth earned a Master of Arts in Education (concentration major: Elementary School Teaching) in 1998 from the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA.

She co-presented a lecture workshop titled "Geometry with Kites" at the 2005 Montessori Foundation Peace Conference (International Montessori Council). She also published an article (1999) focusing on arts education and Montessori in the journal, "Montessori Leadership."



Kym Elder

Executive Director of Island Village Montessori Charter and Early Childhood Programs, was founder and first President of the IVMS Founding Board. Kym has Montessori teacher certification from the American Montessori Society in both early childhood and elementary levels.

Kym holds a MS in Charter School Educational Leadership from Nova University and is completing her Ed.D at Nova with a concentration in Internet Technology and Distance Education. She currently holds Florida professional certifications in educational leadership, elementary K-6, middle school integrated 5-9, and ESE K-12.



Judi Dunlap

Judi Dunlap has been a Montessori educator for 30 years. She is certified in early childhood education by the National Center for Montessori Education and by the American Montessori Society for 6 - 12 elementary. Judi completed her elementary training at the Institute for Advanced Montessori Studies with Harvey Hallenberg. She also holds a Master of Arts in Gifted Education from the University of South Florida.

Judi started both the Junior and Senior Elementary programs at Palm Harbor Montessori Academy. She was Elementary Dean at New Gate School in Sarasota for 11 years and most recently Principal of the Key West Montessori Elementary Charter School. Judi currently works as a Montessori teacher trainer and is a Montessori consultant in the Tampa Bay area.



Dr. Paul Czaja

Dr. Czaja has been involved in the Montessori movement for over 45 years. He received his masters degree in philosophy and his doctorate in education from Fordham University. Dr. Czaja was on the founding faculty and, eventually, headmaster at the famous Whitby School the American Montessori Center, in Greenwich, Connecticut, from 1960 until 1978. He has been involved in Montessori teacher training for many years, and has worked with Montessori public schools as well as private schools.

Library

The purpose of this library is to provide an online collection of Montessori curriculum lessons, philosophy, and classroom management presentations for real-time educator support.

The library is organized by skill and topic, and follows the traditional scope and sequence as closely as possible. Other sections covering philosophy, classroom management and ESE strategies, are used in our courses. Examples of curriculum masters, lesson plans, and school administration forms are also available.

Our video library currently houses over 750 instructional videos available to our members. Videos are added on a regular basis.



Montessori Philosophy Videos

Consists of two series of lectures by Dr. Paul Czaja speaking on subjects such as: Philosophy and Wisdom, Discovery of the Child, Humility of the Teacher, Intentionality and more.

Montessori Mathematics Videos

The mathematics area is divided into five sections that follow a student from early childhood years to 6th grade.

Categories include, Memorization, Operations, Fractions, Geometry and Algebra. Each category is divided into subcategories for to make it easier to find the right video for the lesson desired.

Numerous materials are utilized in the videos including baskets, tens and teens boards, 100 board, memorization boards and finger charts, addition and subtraction strip boards, colored beads, long and short chains, division unit board, and the Pythagoras board for multiplication, golden beads, number rods, stamp game, dot board, golden mat, short and long bead frames, golden bead frame, checkerboard, and division test tubes.

Geometry lessons include lessons on geometric solids and the geometric cabinet. Topics include card materials of the study of polygons, triangles, quadrilaterals, angles, and lines.

Montessori Language Videos

The language section covers best practice in the instruction of reading and writing from early childhood to elementary.

Categories include, Beginning Reading, Correct Expression, Handwriting, Phonics and Word Study, Reading Comprehension, Formal Spelling, Mechanics, Grammar Symbols, Grammar Boxes, Sentence Analysis, and the Study of the Verb.

Materials include the moveable alphabet, sandpaper letters, object boxes, as well as lessons on grammar, spelling, research, handwriting, essay writing, and reading using both phonetic and whole language approaches, plus more.

Montessori Cultural Videos

The cultural videos include the story of the universe and astronomy studies for elementary children. This section introduces children to chemical elements, energy and mass, the story of life, the timelines of Earth history and life, scientific classification and nomenclature of life kingdoms, the study of physical and political geography, Imaginary Island studies, and the timeline of humans.

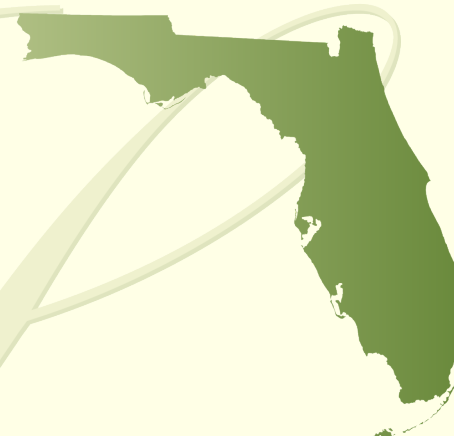
Course Tuition Rates

Please find below the current tuition rates for Montessori Live courses. Prices for each course are displayed to reflect the various programs currently available.

Course participants will have free and complete access to the Library for the duration of this course. Once the course is completed, if access to the library is desired, participants will be required to join as a monthly or yearly member or enroll in another course. If a participant is not registered as a member there may be a short period of library inaccessibility between courses.

Course	Rate
Foundations of Montessori Philosophy	\$300.00 USD
Observation and Child Development	\$300.00 USD
Numeration and the Decimal System	\$225.00 USD
Operations with Whole Numbers	\$225.00 USD
Advanced Operations with Whole Numbers	\$225.00 USD
Geometry, Perimeter, Area and Volume	\$225.00 USD
Fractions and Decimals	\$225.00 USD
Decimal Fractions and Algebra	\$225.00 USD
Correct Expression & Handwriting	\$225.00 USD
Grammar Materials & Sentence Analysis	\$225.00 USD
The Big Picture of the Universe	\$225.00 USD
Earth History, Story of Life, Human Civilization	\$225.00 USD
Educator Practicum (includes site supervision)	\$500.00 USD
Practical Applications for Administrators	\$500.00 USD
The Parentcator Lectures	\$100.00 USD
Residency Component	\$500.00 USD

Montessori Live was made possible, in part, by a Dissemination Grant for Best Practice for Florida Charter Schools. As a result, Montessori Live offers the Video Lesson Library to Florida Charter Montessori Schools for free. Our courses are also available to Florida Montessori Charter schools at a discounted rate.



Graduate credits available. For more information call Argosy University Sarasota Campus. 941-379-4713 Ask for Dr. Wayne Kessler

www.montessorilive.net

Memberships

Library Membership

Montessori Live members currently receive unlimited access to the Montessori curriculum videos in philosophy, mathematics, language, and cultural subjects. The library videos present a teacher giving an actual lesson to a student in an effort to help educator understand the dynamics of instruction.

As long as members are signed up for our courses, they do not pay extra fees for membership. The free membership lasts as long as the length of the course.

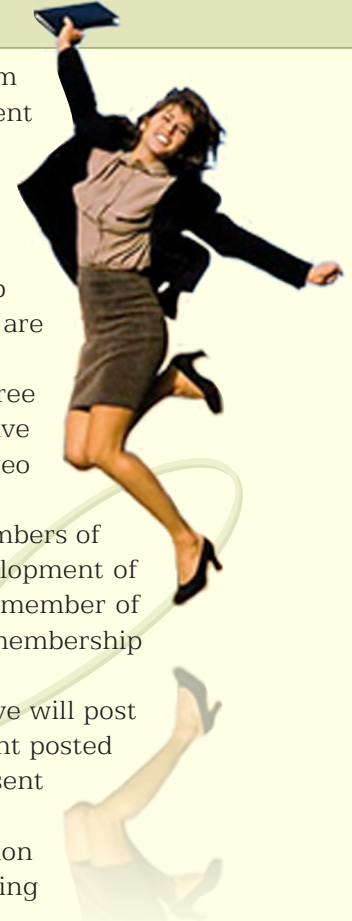
After each course has ended, members will be responsible to sign up for membership again, unless they elect to continue taking training with Montessori Live. As long as members are currently registered for a course, free membership rules apply.

If members elect not to participate in the course for which they are registered, the free membership will automatically cease on the first day of the new course. Members will have to sign up for either a monthly or yearly membership in order to maintain access to the video library.

Members will also have unlimited access to Montessori Live discussion boards. Only members of the site are allowed to post and answer questions and topics. This forum promotes the development of an online community of Montessori educators and administrators. Once you have become a member of Montessori Live, your membership to the forums is permanent. If you choose to cancel your membership you will still have complete forum privileges.

We encourage the sharing of black line masters created by each member. Montessori Live will post them in a separate resource section. Montessori Live will retain unlimited rights to the content posted by members and retains the right to edit and delete material deemed inappropriate to represent the standards of Montessori Live.

We will soon be posting job openings for our members on a classified announcement section of our site. Montessori Live is not responsible for the validity or integrity of those who are posting openings at their schools.



Project Overview

Montessori Live Answers a Great Need in the Montessori Community

Montessori is among the fastest growing reform of education today. Young people going into the field of education want to learn about the philosophy and psychology of the Montessori way of fostering successful student learning. The foundational principles of Montessori Education have been validated by current developmental research and interest in Dr. Montessori's methodology has been increasing in recent years, especially in the public school sector of the United States.

Critical Shortage of Teachers and Training Programs

The shortage of teachers and training programs has become a critical problem. There are not enough well trained Montessori teachers and administrators. The American Montessori Society (AMS), Association Montessori Internationale (AMI), and Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education (MACTE) are the main professional organizations in the United States.

To be certified under these credentials, a Montessori teacher must

- * have between 200 and 350 face-to-face hours of instruction at a certified training center.
- * go through a year as a student teacher under a certified Montessori educator who has taught at least two years.
- * have three observations in the classroom by a supervising teacher during their internship year.
- * complete a year-long project, as well as lesson resource albums in every major curriculum area.

Today, according to the American Montessori Society's website, there are 1,100 Montessori schools affiliated with AMS and only seventy affiliated, teacher-training programs in the United States: seventeen in the Northeast, thirteen in the Midwest, twenty-six in the Southeast, nine within the Plains states, and eleven in the Western states.

The Solution

We welcome you to Montessori Live, an web-based teacher training program, designed to support new and experienced educators. We offer professional development and graduate level credits. We are currently in the application process with MACTE to offer Montessori Elementary I certification. In addition, the video lessons are online for our members to be used as needed at any time in any time zone.

www.montessorilive.net

