

Montessori Philosophy

MTI 240

Spring 2008

(Saturdays 9:00 am – 2:00 pm)

Three Rivers Community College
Thanes Campus
Norwich, CT. 06360

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Office Hours by Appointment

Montessori Philosophy

3 credits

Course Description:

To gain an understanding of the historical perspective of Dr. Maria Montessori and her work with young children. Philosophy specific to the Montessori Method will be discussed in detail (i.e. absorbent mind, sensitive periods, logical mathematical mind, spiritual and moral development of the child, etc.) This course will also discover how the Montessori Method relates to the child, materials, teacher and environment. The philosophy of Art in the Montessori classroom will also be explored.

Knowledge Objectives:

MACTE COMPETENCIES

1. Demonstrate knowledge of human development and education.
Plan for continuity of learning experiences for children in the age range of certification.
2. Demonstrate knowledge, application, and analysis of the theoretical / philosophical base upon which Montessori early childhood education programs have been and currently are being developed.
- 3.6 Demonstrate knowledge of the teaching of art, music, movement, geography and science.
- 3.7 Demonstrate knowledge of the teaching of varied learning styles.

Learning Objectives:

1. To learn ways to protect the natural development of children.
2. To learn to provide an enriched Montessori environment for young children.
3. To become practiced observers.
4. To present Art lessons in a Montessori environment

Requirements:

1. Visit three (3) Montessori School and write a reaction paper for each (150)
2. Three (3) papers on topics to be discussed in class (300)
3. Take home exam (125)
4. Presentation in class on one of the three paper written (100)
5. Philosophy album (75)
6. Art album (100)
7. Written Presentations (50)
7. Attendance and participation (100)

Assignments are expected on date due (see schedule). Absolutely NO assignments will be accepted after the last class.

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Meeting	Date	Topic
1	Saturday, January 26	Expectations, syllabus review, Biography MM Four Planes of Development
2	February 2	Sensitive Periods, Human Tendencies
3	February 16	Four Planes of Development, Sensitive Periods, Human Tendencies; Lesson Plan; Album How To
4	March 15	Observation, Presentations
5	March 29	Art
6	April 5	Freedom and Discipline, Presentations
7	April 19	Prepared Environment, Directress, Presentations
8	April 26	Presentations, Return Exam, Wrap up
9	May 3	Scheduled class in case of snow

Required Text:

Secrets of Childhood, Dr. Maria Montessori

A Biography select either Kramer or Standing (will discuss first class)

Discovery of the Child, Dr. Maria Montessori

Montessori's Own Handbook, Dr. Maria Montessori

Materials Needed two three ring binders, page protectors

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Course Evaluation

The evaluation process will be computed based on the points received for the assignments

Grade	Equivalent	Quality Points
A	941 – 1000	4.0
A-	891 – 940	3.7
B+	861 – 890	3.3
B	821 – 860	3.0
B-	791 – 820	2.7
C+	761 – 790	2.3
C	721 – 760	2.0
C-	691 – 720	1.7
D+	661 – 690	1.3
D	621 – 660	1.0
D-	600 - 620	0.7
F		0.0

Attendance

This course is designed in such a way that a student should get more from the in class activities than from the text alone. Therefore, students who are registered for this course are naturally expected to attend class and participate in class.

Disabilities Statement

If you have a hidden or visible disability which may require classroom or test taking modifications, please see me as soon as possible, If you have not already done so, you may choose to notify and consult with John Perch, who is coordinating services to students with disabilities, or Chris Scarborough, Disabilities Student Counselor.

Cellular Phones and Beepers

Students are notified that cellular phones and beepers are allowed in class or in the Learning Resource Center only if they are turned off or turned to a silent mode. Under no circumstances are phones to be answered in class. When there are extenuating circumstances that require that a student be available by phone or beeper, the student should speak to the instructor prior to class, so that together they can arrive at an agreement.

Withdraw Policy

Students may withdraw in writing at the Registrar's Office, for any reason until the end of the 10th week of classes. From the 11th week through the end of the 13th week, a student may withdraw with the signature of the instructor or advisor.

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TRCC Spring Calendar 2008

Jan. 23	Classes Begin /Late Registration Begins Add/Drop Period Begins
Jan. 30	Instructor Signature Required to Add Classes
Feb. 5	Last Day of Add/Drop and Partial Tuition Refund
Feb. 12	Lincoln's Birthday Observed - Classes Not in Session
Mar. 17-23	Spring Break - Classes Not In Session
Mar. 21-22	Spring Recess - College Closed
Apr. 11	Faculty Professional Day - Classes in Session
Apr. 15	Last Day to apply for Summer (August '08) Graduation
Apr. 29	Last Day to Withdraw from Classes
May 6	Last Day of Classes
May 7 - 8	Make-up/Reading Days
May 9-17	Class/lab. makeup/supplemental sessions or final exam week
May 18	Commencement
May 19	Final Grades Due

Sign up Sheet for Presentations

Class Meeting	Topic	Presenter
3	Sensitive Periods	
3	Four Planes of Development	
6	Human Tendencies	
9	Observation	
7	Freedom and Discipline	
8	Prepared Environment	
9	Directress	

Sign up Sheet for Papers Pick Three

Topic			
Sensitive Periods			
Four Planes of Development			
Human Tendencies			
Observation			
Freedom and Discipline			
Prepared Environment			
Directress			

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Montessori Papers

For each lecture a package of information will be handed out. Many of the Montessori research articles are difficult to find. In an effort to improve that the research has been done for you. In the package is also an outline. **When writing your papers and presenting to the class, please follow the outline.**

The writing center is available to you for editing and reviewing of your papers. There is no charge for the service. The writing center is located in room 106 on the Mohegan campus. You can also email your paper to the writing center and they will review it and email it back.

Please use "APA" format in constructing your papers. If you are not familiar with this format please go to the library or the TRCC web site and obtain the necessary information. (As you walk into the library there is a information sheet on APA on the left side)

Presentations

The presentation should be fifteen minutes in length. It should include everything on the outline. Visuals are optional. We will be in a room equipped with a computer and it may be used for your presentations.

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	Points	Actual
Montessori Observation 1	50	
Montessori Observation 2	50	
Montessori Observation 3	50	
Paper 1	100	
Paper 2	100	
Paper 3	100	
Presentation in Class	100	
Take Home Exam	125	
Philosophy Album	75	
Art Album	100	
Written Presentations	50	
Attendance	100	
Total	1000	

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