

PRIMARY COURSE

The Primary Course prepares adults to understand child development from 3 to 6 years and the special Montessori environments designed to meet the needs of children of this age. This course provides the opportunity to understand the special nature of early childhood and the child's powerful self-constructive forces. Many graduates work as teachers in Primary classes (often called the Children's House or the Casa) or become administrators in Montessori schools. Others may wish to understand this age group more fully to enhance their work in other settings, including parents and caregivers in the home environment.

In the foundation years of birth to age 6 the child's great task is one of self-construction. Along with Piaget, Erikson and others, Dr. Maria Montessori observed that children pass through distinctive stages in their development from birth to maturity. Using her skills as a scientist, physician, neurologist, and anthropologist, she spent many years in observation and experimentation with children from all over the world. The result was her design of appropriate materials and activities for use in educational environments. These environments differ as the children's needs change and grow. Environments at each stage are prepared to help children move toward their full potential and to prepare for the next stage of maturation.

In the Montessori prepared environment for 3-6+-year-olds the children's physical, emotional, social, and intellectual needs are met through inclusion of mixed ages, Montessori materials and a prepared teacher or guide. Children are free to proceed at their own pace and are guided in making choices among many learning materials. Each child's individuality is respected and the universal laws of human development are honored. The environment becomes a cohesive social unit as children participate in the give and take of social life. The adult serves as a loving and nurturing link between the children and this rich learning community. Children's satisfaction, independence, confidence and joy are observable in any Montessori classroom.

FACULTY



Uma Ramani, M.A.
*Director of Primary Training
Three-Summer Course*

Uma Ramani holds AMI diplomas at the Primary and Elementary levels and Master's Degrees in Sociology and Textiles. Educated and trained in India and the United States, she now lives in Florida. Uma is an AMI trainer, lecturer and examiner and has been Primary guide in schools in New York and Connecticut. She served as Primary coach at Annie Fisher Montessori, a public Montessori school in Hartford, Connecticut, and as a consultant to Elm City Montessori School, a public charter school in New Haven, Connecticut where a primary focus for her work was on helping teachers work closely with parents to build partnerships between home and school. She also continues to work with the Montessori community in India.



Larry G. Quade, Ph.D.
*Director of Primary Training
Academic Year Course*

Larry Quade has more than 40 years of experience in education with adults and children. As a tenured Associate Professor of Anthropology at Washburn University of Topeka, Kansas, he taught physical and cultural anthropology, archaeology and comparative religion. After receiving the AMI Primary diploma, he served as Primary and Adolescent guide at the Post Oak School in Houston, Texas, and as a Primary guide, Head of School and Pedagogy Advisor at The Barbara Gordon Montessori School in Colleyville, Texas (now Waypoint Montessori). He is a former Director of Primary Training for Houston Montessori Institute and a current member of the Board of Directors of AMI in Amsterdam, where he holds the Pedagogy position.

*"Whoever touches the life of the child,
touches the most sensitive point of a whole
which has roots in the most distant past
and climbs toward the infinite future."*

María Montessori

PRIMARY TEACHER

TRAINING COURSES

MACTE Accredited

For ages 3-6

Summer Course

Enrolling for 2017-2019

Academic Year Course

Enrolling for 2017-2018



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COURSE SCHEDULES, TUITION AND FEES

Summer

Summer 2017: June 5 –July 21, 2017
8:30am-4:30pm, M-F
Summer 2018: June 11 – August 3, 2018
8:30am-4:30pm, M-F
Summer 2019: June 10 – July 12, 2019
8:30am-4:30pm, M-F

Tuition and Fees:

Application Fee: \$100 (on or before March 17, 2017
or \$150 after March 17, 2017)
Tuition: \$10,250*
(Includes non-refundable deposit of \$500
due within 10 days of acceptance)
Examination Fee: \$500
AMI Membership Fee:
\$75/year for U.S. residents for 3 years
\$95/year for non-U.S. residents for 3 years

Academic Year

September 6, 2017 – May 23, 2018, 9am-3pm, M-F

Tuition and Fees:

Application Fee: \$100 (on or before July 3, 2017 or
\$150 after July 3, 2017)
Tuition: \$10,250*
(Includes non-refundable deposit of \$500
due within 10 days of acceptance)
Examination Fee: \$500
AMI Membership Fee:
\$75/year for U.S. residents for 3 years
\$95/year for non-U.S. residents for 3 years

In addition to tuition and fees, students should budget approximately \$1,000 to \$1,500 for books, supplies and material making.

**An installment payment plan is available for a service fee of \$300 (three installments for the summer course and two installments for the academic year course). To inquire about alternative financial arrangements, please contact MINT at info@montessori-mint.org*

HOW TO APPLY

- 1) Complete the MINT application online. If you prefer, download the application, complete it, and mail to MINT. Indicate your course selection.
- 2) Have three professional references and applicable transcripts sent directly to the MINT office.
- 3) Submit completed application, resume, and two-page autobiography to MINT with a non-refundable application fee.
- 4) A personal interview will be scheduled when your application is complete. A telephone or Skype interview will be conducted when distance is too far for a personal meeting.

The Admissions Committee will notify successful applicants of acceptance into the training. A non-refundable tuition deposit of \$500 is required to secure your place in the course.

COURSE OF STUDY

- Lectures in Montessori theory.
- Demonstration of materials in practical life, sensorial, language, mathematics, and cultural areas including art, music, history, geography, and science.
- Construction of Material and Theory Reference Books.
- Supervised practice sessions with Montessori materials.
- Required reading of selected books by Dr. Maria Montessori.
- Ninety (90) hours of observation and 120 hours of practice teaching are required, to be done locally or in the student's home city in a classroom with an AMI-certified teacher.
- Two written examinations and one oral examination.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

AMI/USA MES Financial Aid Fund

In honor of Margaret Elizabeth Stephenson, who devoted 40 years to development of teachers and teacher-trainers, AMI/USA has established a fund to help support students who have been accepted at any AMI training center in the United States. Once accepted into an AMI-recognized training course, individuals should contact AMI/USA directly and request a financial aid packet. For more information, visit AMI/USA's website, www.amiusa.org/financial-aid.

School Sponsorships

Schools in many areas often sponsor qualified individuals to obtain AMI training in return for a period of guaranteed employment with the school. Contact individual schools to inquire about this possibility. AMI/USA or MINT may also be contacted by schools seeking candidates to sponsor for AMI training. Some of these opportunities are listed on the AMI/USA website, www.amiusa.org/financial-aid.

MINT Financial Aid

Financial aid is available from MINT for students who have been admitted to the course. Students who wish to apply for financial aid submit required documents online to CSS / Financial Aid PROFILE®, a third-party agency that evaluates submissions, determines eligibility and provides MINT with recommendations. For more information, please contact the MINT Financial Aid Committee at info@montessori-mint.org.

Kyle and Jimmy Galbraith Fund for Montessori in the Public Sector

MINT's Galbraith Fund for Montessori in the Public Sector is dedicated to promoting and supporting high quality Montessori programs in the public sector, and to expanding the availability of Montessori education for all children and families. Scholarships are available for public district/charter school teachers for AMI training at MINT. For information, contact the MINT Financial Aid Committee at info@montessori-mint.org.