



Elementary I Ages 6 to 9 – Course Description

Early Childhood Overview

The Early Childhood Overview is required for those who do not have an Early Childhood Credential. This is a one-week course held during the first week of the summer courses. It provides the elementary adult learner with the foundation of early childhood materials and philosophy. An understanding of this foundation is essential to the adult learner in elementary courses. While it is desirable to take the Early Childhood Overview prior to the Elementary I Course, it may be taken in a previous or subsequent summer.

The basic format of the Elementary Teacher Education course consists of 3 Sections

Academic Component - (8 weeks during the summer months)

Montessori materials used in the Elementary program for children ages 6-9 and other topics for this age are presented. Subjects covered include:

Art	Botany	Classroom Leadership	Computers
Geography	Geometry	History	Language
Math	Montessori Philosophy	Music	Physical Education
Practical Life	Zoology		

Notes on the presentations of each exercise will be distributed to the participants. These printed notes, along with personal notes and illustrations the Adult Learner may wish to include, will constitute the Teacher's Resource Manuals.

Much of the Elementary materials must be teacher-made, so some time will be spent on making materials during each daily session. Many paper materials (such as drawings, labels, illustrations for charts, timelines, and classified nomenclatures) will be distributed at no additional charge. Participants should plan on incurring additional expenses on paper for mounting, duplicating copies, lamination, colored pencils, etc., according to the needs of each individual participant.

Workshop Sessions are held from 8:30-5:00 daily.

Four additional hours per week are required in evening sessions for directed practice and supervised material making. Some Saturday sessions will also be required. The 8 weeks may be taken in two summers: Four weeks for ages 6-7; four weeks for ages 8-9.

During the Workshop, materials, and philosophy covered in the Early Childhood Montessori Course will not be repeated; therefore, participants who wish to obtain the Elementary Credential must either attend an Early Childhood Montessori Education Course or complete selected 3-6 content in an Early Childhood Overview held the week before the Elementary Course.

9 Month Practicum

While the Academic component may be taken before receiving a Bachelor's degree, the



Practicum may not be started until the adult learner has received a Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college/university.

Practicum requirements

- Monthly reports on the implementation of the Elementary Program in an actual classroom. (Teachers secure their own classroom in which to teach the Elementary Montessori Program)
- Preparation of assigned teacher-made materials
- Compilation of the Teacher Resource Manuals using notes received in the Workshop and additional personal notes
- 3 observations by a member of the Teacher Education Staff. Adult learners must cover transportation and housing costs
- Writing of an original curriculum development project

A 16-hour Seminar will be held during the practicum year. The exact dates will be announced.

1 Week Final Assessment

- Presentation of assigned exercises to classmates as a general review, under the direction and supervision of a staff member
- Presentation to classmates of Teacher Resource Manuals, teacher-made materials, the practicum experience and, year's project
- Written exams on Philosophy and Materials

Prerequisites to receive the AMS Elementary Credential

1. A four-year college degree from an accredited college or university
2. Successful Completion of all Elementary Course Requirements
3. Montessori Early Childhood (for ages 3-6): either a 3-6 Credential or completion of the Early Childhood Overview

If Adult Learners do not wish to take the entire credential program, they may elect to participate solely in the academic component. The minimum requirement for attending the academic component is 60 credits from a regionally accredited college/university and permission of the Course Director. The minimum requirement for participating in the Practicum Phase is a 4-year college degree from a regionally accredited college/university.

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