



**THE CENTER FOR GUIDED
MONTESSORI STUDIES**

888-344-7897 • info@cgms.edu • cgms.edu

TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Certification and professional development that fits your lifestyle

INFANT/TODDLER

A young child with light brown hair, wearing a grey long-sleeved shirt with lace detailing on the sleeves, is standing at a wooden countertop. They are holding a small white plastic pitcher and pouring water into a stainless steel sink. The faucet is open, and water is running. The background is softly blurred, showing a bright, indoor setting.

CERTIFICATION LEVEL

International Montessori Council Certification for teaching ages 0-3 years. Full Certification is MACTE Accredited. Find out more information at www.macte.org and www.montessori.org.

LENGTH OF COURSE

18 months

COMPONENTS

- Distance learning coursework over the entire 18 months with a one week break approximately every 9 weeks and 2 week winter and summer breaks.
- Single Residential Session – 120 hour session takes place over 2 ½ weeks, usually during the first summer.
- Practicum Requirement - 9 month, 400 hour practicum internship in an approved Montessori Infant or Toddler classroom or a Montessori Parent/Infant program.

**For more information on any program, visit:
cgms.edu or email info@cgms.edu.**



EARLY CHILDHOOD

CERTIFICATION LEVEL

International Montessori Council Certification for teaching ages 3-6 Years. Full Certification is MACTE Accredited. Find out more information at macte.org and montessori.org.

LENGTH OF COURSE

18 months

COMPONENTS

- Distance learning coursework over the entire 18 months with a one week break approximately every 9 weeks, and 2 week winter and summer breaks.
- Single Residential Session – 120 hour session takes place over 2 ½ weeks, usually during the first summer.
- Practicum Requirement - 9 month, half-day practicum internship in an approved Montessori Early Childhood classroom.

DID YOU KNOW?

Close to 50 people contributed significant amounts of time to the creation of The Center for Guided Montessori Studies (CGMS), including founders of the Montessori Foundation and the International Montessori Council.



ELEMENTARY

CERTIFICATION LEVEL

Choose one of the following IMC Elementary Certification Courses:

- Elementary I-II combined - Certification for teaching 6-12 year olds
- Elementary I only (Certification for teaching ages 6-9 years)
- Elementary II only (Certification for teaching ages 9-12 years)

Full Certification is MACTE Accredited. Find out more information at www.macte.org and www.montessori.org.

LENGTH OF COURSE

18 months each level, or 24 months combined

COMPONENTS

- Distance learning coursework over the entire duration with a one week break approximately every 9 weeks and 2 week winter and summer breaks.
- Single, 120 hour Residential Session for each level, or 2 Sessions totalling 200 hours if taking the combined course. A Residential Session takes place over 2 ½ weeks during the first summer and second summer.
- Practicum Requirement - 9 month Full Day internship (full school year) in a Montessori Elementary classroom at the level you are studying.

SECONDARY



CERTIFICATION LEVEL

International Montessori Council Certification for teaching ages 12-18 years. Full Certification is MACTE Accredited. Find out more information at www.macte.org and www.montessori.org.

LENGTH OF COURSE

20 months

COMPONENTS

- Distance learning coursework over the entire 20 months with a one week break approximately every 9 weeks and 2 week winter and summer breaks.
- Two Residential Sessions – 120 hour session takes place over 2 ½ weeks, usually during the first summer. A shorter session in the next summer totals 80 hours of class time instruction.
- Practicum Requirement - 9 month Full Day internship (full school year) in a Montessori Secondary classroom.

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LEADERSHIP



Continue your Montessori journey with a school leadership certificate! This program is for both new and experienced school heads, as well as for others who wish to someday lead world class Montessori schools. Designed in collaboration with the Montessori Foundation, the program has components tailored for both those with more Montessori experience than business, as well as for others who are less familiar with Montessori pedagogy than they are with the business side.

CGMS is an Applicant in Good Standing for MACTE accreditation. “Candidate in Good Standing” status in no way determines the outcome of the accreditation decision by MACTE. CGMS has designed this program to exceed the MACTE Leadership accreditation standard.

WHAT IS MACTE?

MACTE is the international standard setting and accrediting body for Montessori teacher education. MACTE was granted initial recognition by the U.S. Department of Education in 1995.

MACTE is committed to the effective preparation of Montessori teachers. Its mission is to recognize, assure, and promote the high quality of that preparation through its system of accreditation for the ultimate purpose of advancing Montessori student learning.



www.macte.org



WEBINARS

From Math Materials to Cosmic Education, CGMS hosts interactive webinars to help inspire, refine, and inform viewers on important and relevant topics in the field of Montessori. During these one and two-part sessions, you'll explore themes and concepts that will help you apply the Montessori theory to your classroom and beyond. Past presenters have included Jonathan Wolff, Jocelyn Swanson, and Dr. Janice Fletcher to name a few.

To stay up-to-date on future webinars, follow us on Facebook (@montessoriteachers) or sign up for our newsletter on our website (cgms.edu)!

Examples of previous webinars include:

- It's Time to Check Some Monte-assumptions with Jonathan Wolff
- Sacred Geometry with Greg Hicks
- Teach with Spirit, A New Awareness with Dr. Janice Fletcher
- Set Up, Organize, and Re-Vamp Your Montessori Elementary Science Curriculum with Jackie Grundberg
- Montessori Secondary Bootcamp: Getting Ready for a New Year with Jocelyn Swanson
- Cosmic Education: An Offering of Windows and Mirrors with Shelby Hiken
- Unboxing Math Materials with Jorge Haro

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EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSISTANT CERTIFICATION

By successfully completing this 11-week course, you will earn an IMC Early Childhood Assistant Teacher Credential for supporting teachers and children in a 3-6 years old classroom.

WEEK 1: In this week, you will study and learn about the history of the Montessori Method and Introduction to Philosophy and Theory

- Who is Maria Montessori?
- How did the Montessori method develop?
- Key principles of Montessori philosophy

WEEK 2: Studying more about Montessori and developing a deeper understanding of the philosophy

- Studying the guiding principles of the Montessori method
- What does it mean when we hear “Follow the Child?”
- What are “Sensitive Periods” in a child’s early development?

WEEK 3: The Classroom is a Prepared Environment

- Learn how and why this specifically prepared environment supports learning and development
- The outdoor environment is important and requires preparation and maintenance
- Observe classroom environments and discover specifics that aid the child’s independence and development

WEEK 4: Developing a Positive and Welcoming Classroom Culture and How to Observe a Classroom

- Creating a positive classroom culture with grace and courtesy and how do we demonstrate and model this with the children?
- Establishing a positive classroom tone
- Using Observation as your guide for supporting children

WEEK 5: Classroom Management and a Montessori Approach to Discipline

- What is positive discipline and how is it implemented?
- How do we redirect children’s behavior?
- Balancing freedom and responsibility

WEEK 6: Classroom Roles in the Early Childhood Classroom

- Learn about the roles and responsibilities of the lead teacher and the assistant teacher or guide
- Creating and defining the responsibilities for the team
- The importance of positive and frequent communication

WEEK 7: The Practical Life Area

- Learn about the importance of this area in the development of the child's independence, order, concentration, and coordination
- Review some of the lessons given in this area
- Develop a list of your responsibilities in the practical life area

WEEK 8: The Sensorial Area

- Learn how these materials support the development of the intellect and prepare the child for math and language
- What's a three-period lesson and how do we use that specific lesson?
- Develop a list of your specific responsibilities for the care of this area

WEEK 9: The Math Area

- Discover how a child's mathematical mind grows.
- See some of the important Montessori materials in this area
- Create your list of responsibilities for the care of the math area

WEEK 10: Language Area

- Discover why the classroom is a language-rich environment for children to develop vocabulary and a foundation for reading and writing.
- How is the sensitive period for language the "just-right" time for learning letter sounds?
- How you can support language development and create a list of responsibilities for this area

WEEK 11: Cultural Area and The Montessori Community

- What do children learn about geography, history, and science in this area and what responsibilities do you have?
- How do we create an environment where everyone is welcomed, accepted, and valued?
- Discover more about our own implicit biases and how these matter in our work

WHAT TO EXPECT

Approximately 8 hours of coursework each week including video viewing of Montessori lectures and lessons, online discussion forums, observation and or other practical assignments to put what you are learning in practice, journaling, and a 1 hour live video class in zoom each week.

INSTRUCTORS

Your course will be led by one of our experienced CGMS Instructional Guides. Video instructors include: Kitty Bravo, Tim Seldin, Cathie Perolman, Jana Morgan Herman, and Lorna McGrath.

PLEASE NOTE: Completion of the Early Childhood Assistant Certification does not indicate completion of a MACTE accredited course.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Whether you are a classroom assistant or an experienced master teacher, we have professional development courses for every stage in your Montessori journey. All CGMS courses are conducted online using modern internet technologies. Participants will work with a cohort of adult learners and instructional guide.

MONTESSORI BEGINNINGS

This course provides an introduction to supporting development during the earliest years of life. It provides information that can be useful to assistants, administrators, parents, and anyone interested in learning about how to apply Montessori philosophy, principles, and practices to caring for the youngest members of our human family.

MONTESSORI FUNDAMENTALS (Early Childhood)

This introduction to Montessori has a focus on the Early Childhood level. It's great for assistant teachers, volunteers, and substitute teachers or as a refresher for an experienced teacher. Includes key philosophical concepts, classroom roles and much more.

MONTESSORI FUNDAMENTALS (Elementary)

This course is designed to introduce the wonders of Montessori at the elementary level to assistant teachers, support staff, and Montessori administrators who are new to Montessori or Montessori for the elementary years.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Practical ideas and resources for working with those children who need a little something extra. Also includes school policies to address issues of children with special needs, communicating with parents, and working in partnership with specialists.

FUNDAMENTOS MONTESSORI

Este curso está diseñado para ofrecer el contenido y la calidad del mismo programa en inglés pero completamente en español. La instrucción la imparte una Guía Montessori con mucha experiencia en la Casa de Niños, y que su principal idioma es el español. Este curso es ideal para las Asistentes en un aula Montessori y para aquellos que no han recibido todavía una certificación.



ABOUT US

Created in 2006 by the founders of the Montessori Foundation and the International Montessori Council, The Center for Guided Montessori Studies expands the availability of authentic training to those who either cannot or do not wish to spend a great deal of time physically at a training center. Our Online learning technology will allow you to collaborate more effectively, and review Montessori theory and practice more thoroughly and with greater repetition over time. Our Full Certificate Early Childhood program was the first program with a large distance component to receive MACTE accreditation.



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COMMON QUESTIONS

IS CGMS RIGHT FOR ME?

If you are already working at a Montessori school, we recommend you begin by speaking with your school administrator. You can tell them you are interested in the Center for Guided Montessori Studies' training program. If you are not working in a Montessori classroom, consider asking nearby schools about our program.

We offer a unique blend of distance learning with a low on-site residency requirement. CGMS uses web technology to present video lectures and curriculum offering a deep and comprehensive exploration of the Montessori approach for every level. You will complete assignments which relate directly to your classroom experience and provide opportunities for application of the course material. Regular online discussions with instructors and fellow adult learners serve to build a rich and supportive learning community and provide additional opportunities for integration of course topics. Onsite visits will help strengthen your classroom skills.

WILL I BE SUPPORTED?

We don't simply provide you with Montessori curriculum albums that describe how to give lessons. In our program you study in collaboration with other adult learners in a cohort group. An Instructional Guide and a Field Consultant discuss lessons and provide feedback and advice.

IS AN INTERNSHIP REQUIRED?

Yes, a 9 month practicum is required. You will receive both in-person and remote support during this internship.

IS THE PROGRAM GOING TO BE RESPECTED BY EMPLOYERS?

CGMS has a strong reputation based on our commitment to quality. Our full-certificate programs are MACTE accredited and IMC recognized.

CAN I STUDY AT MY OWN PACE?

No. Self-study is inadequate to prepare for the complexities of the classroom. For this reason, our adult learners work in weekly modules and receive extensive feedback from our instructors as well as from other students. Adult learners may work the hours convenient for them, but they must complete assignments by their due dates.

WHAT WORK WOULD I BE DOING?

You will work an average of 10 to 15 hours per week, watching hundreds of hours of online videos of both material presentations and lectures. You will also read books by Dr. Montessori and other experts in child development, create materials, write essays and lesson plans and upload your practice videos to share with other adult learners. Some of your work will expand the provided curriculum albums. Many of your assignments will be done in collaboration with your fellow students under the guidance of your Instructional Guide and your internship Field Consultant. Full Certificate adult learners will also attend one or two summer residential sessions.



The Montessori Library

Interested in Special Needs or Art, but not Math? Interested in Science but not Language? Pick just what you want, for as long* as you want. Whether you need a single month to review child development materials, or could use long-term access to all of our Elementary albums and videos, CGMS has a subscription plan that is right for you.

The Montessori Library allows subscribers to choose which parts of the curriculum they are interested in across the levels of Infant/Toddler, Early Childhood, Elementary, and a growing section of Spanish language material!

www.MontessoriLibrary.com

* Monthly subscription rates apply. Minimum of 1 month subscription.

WHAT STUDENTS ARE SAYING...

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These 18 months have been exceptionally rich. I thank each and every one of you for what you have brought me. Your professionalism, your passions, your knowledge, your simplicity, your benevolence, contributed to my transformation. My desire to go beyond myself and to contribute to the change the world needs.

You have all contributed to my transformation, you put me on the path of a profound change, you opened the doors of my conscience, you have me opened unsuspected horizons, you have invited me for a Life trip, to this journey with the children as master of the change of tomorrow for a better world.

- Stephanie, EL Graduate

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I am deeply appreciative of all the support, guidance, and wisdom shared with me over the course of this program. Over these two years I have grown in unexpected ways thanks to this course of study. My guides and instructors were generous in sharing their knowledge, experience, and insights. The friendships and connections I have made with my fellow students and colleagues have been and continue to be invaluable.

- Nancy, EL Graduate

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Gosh, I really feel that I have grown in so many ways as a result of this training. I definitely have a more friendly relationship with failure than when I started this journey. As a guide, I have learned so much about the adolescent personality and their needs as related to the necessity of a carefully designed environment. My knowledge and understanding of inquiry and cognition have certainly broadened too.

- Amy, Secondary Course Graduate

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