



AMI Montessori Assistants Certificate 3-6 Course

Course Components

The Association Montessori Internationale 3-6 course is intended to help adults become able Assistants in a Montessori environment. It includes the philosophy needed to work effectively in this position as well as the instruction of practical skills useful in the environment. The Assistants Course is designed to give an overview of the 3-6 child and a clear understanding of Montessori philosophy regarding children of this age. This course is suitable for any adult who wants to better understand the Montessori approach to child development, including parents, grandparents and carers; teachers, student teachers, specialist teachers, classroom assistants and school administrators.

Course Duration

Melbourne – sixty hours part-time over four Wednesday and Friday afternoons and four full Saturdays, plus nine (9) hours of observation of children aged between 3 and 6.

Sydney - sixty hours at the Centre over 12 consecutive weekdays, including nine (9) hours of observation of children aged between 3 and 6.

Required Reading

Selected reading from the four books listed below:

- The Secret of Childhood
- The Child in the Family
- Education for a New World
- The Absorbent Mind.

Course Programme

- I. Introduction to Montessori education
- II. The role of the Teacher

- III. The role of the Assistant
- IV. Overview of the Planes of Development (0-6, 6-12 and 12-18 years and 18-24 years with emphasis on the first 6 years)
- V. The child's mind from 0-6 years
- VI. Order:
The importance of order and precision, with emphasis on the part order plays in the development of the personality
- VII. Movement 0-6:
Development of movement and its significance for the child
- VIII. The development of oral language. Includes the following elements:
 - a. Preparation of the adult
 - b. Use of language in general
 - c. Use of vocabulary – correct, precise, rich, exact
 - d. How to listen to children
 - e. Communication skills
- IX. Independence:
Development of independence, also taking into account different levels of independence
- X. Prepared environment:
 - a. In the home
 - b. In the Children's House / school environment
- XI. Freedom and discipline:
Understanding the concept of freedom from the Montessori point of view and the growth of discipline as an inner development
- XII. Social development:
Focusing on the process of socialisation in young children
- XIII. Observation and its relevance – technique and recording
- XIV. Music and art
- XV. Maintaining the Environment – indoors and outdoors.

Focus of the Assistant's Work

- To observe
- To learn when and how to intervene to support children's development
- To acquire the ability to allow children to become more independent
- To gain knowledge of Montessori's understanding of Freedom and Discipline
- To learn how to develop respect for, and with, children.

Assignments

- Submission of papers on three topics (of 500 words each)
- Observation records and summaries
- Poetry Anthology made by hand
- Making Classified Cards for language development.

Certificate

The AMI Montessori Assistants Certificate (3-6 Age Level) is awarded to those who complete all the requirements. In order to receive the Certificate, the applicant should:

- Submit all the assignments
- Complete the required hours of observation
- Have 90% attendance.

Attendance

Students must have 90% attendance in order to receive the certificate. Students with attendance below 90% will not be eligible for an AMI certificate.

Eligibility

We welcome candidates from all walks of life and different professions. This course is open to anyone wishing to know more about the Montessori philosophy.

The Assistants Certificate Course is also ideal for anyone considering taking the AMI 3-6 Diploma course in future.