

Programme Aim and Title	Foundation Degree in Montessori Pedagogy (AMI 3-6)
Intermediate Awards Available	Foundation Degree in Montessori Theory Cert HE
Teaching Institution(s)	Maria Montessori Training Organisation Trading as the Maria Montessori Institute
Alternative Teaching Institutions (for local arrangements see final section of this specification)	N/A
UEL Academic School	Cass School of Education and Communities
UCAS Code	X110
Professional Body Accreditation	Association Montessori Internationale
Relevant QAA Benchmark Statements	Early Childhood Studies
Additional Versions of this Programme	N/A
Date Specification Last Updated	June 2018

Programme Aims and Learning Outcomes

This programme is designed to give you the opportunity to:

- Gain the necessary knowledge and practical skills to work as a Montessori teacher in the Early Years sector.
- Gain a deep understanding of child development in the Early Years.
- Develop understanding of the early years' framework and statutory requirements for working in the Early Years in the UK.
- Acquire transferable skills particularly in listening and communication, independent research, critical thinking and analysis, prioritisation and time management and collaborative teamwork to allow you to operate successfully in a variety of fields.

What you will learn:

Knowledge

- The ability to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of child psychology and development in the early years
- The ability to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of Montessori principles
- The ability to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the Montessori materials and their pedagogical aims
- The ability to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of children as active participants; their rights, their health and wellbeing and perspectives on child protection, safeguarding, disability, diversity and inclusion
- The ability to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the role of child observation in informing practice that supports child development and in making assessments to enable progression.

- The ability to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how to apply the Early Years Foundation Stage
- The ability to demonstrate the capacity to become a self-reflective practitioner for the early years.

Thinking skills

- Apply theoretical concepts to inform a point of view.
- Observe, reflect and make critical judgements and evaluations
- Synthesise information from various sources
- Analyse and interpret information

Subject-Based Practical skills

- Make useful and relevant observation notes of children
- Apply Montessori principles to engage children in developmentally appropriate activity
- Manipulation of the Montessori materials in order to show children how to use them
- Create handmade Montessori materials

Skills for life and work (general skills)

- Ability to manage competing personal and professional demands in order to meet deadlines and to take responsibility for one's own learning.
- Ability to work effectively and cooperatively as part of a team, negotiating and pursuing goals with others as well as working independently.
- Ability to critically evaluate information gathered from various resources including libraries and the internet.
- The ability to demonstrate how to present verbal and written information to others in a way that is appropriate for the recipients.
- The ability to demonstrate communication skills to converse, persuade and challenge the ideas of others
- The ability to demonstrate ability to use information technology to create work portfolios
- Develop the skills to reflect on own actions and behaviours as a tool for self-development

Learning and Teaching

Knowledge is developed through

- Lectures
- Guided and independent reading
- Group discussions and tutorials
- Written essays and assignments
- Oral presentation
- Practice with demonstrating Montessori materials and activities
- Practical workshops
- Creation of portfolios for Montessori activities
- Practical and oral review
- Self-evaluation of own understanding of the practical application of the Montessori materials and the theory underpinning the materials

Thinking skills are developed through

- Group discussions and tutorials
- Oral Presentation
- Reflection on application of activities

- Guided and independent reading
- Creation of portfolios of Montessori activities
- Observation in a Montessori classroom
- Self-evaluation

Practical skills are developed through

- Practice with demonstrating Montessori materials and activities
- Creation of handmade Montessori materials
- Creation of portfolios for Montessori activities
- Teaching Practice in a Montessori classroom

Skills for life and work (general skills) are developed through

- Seminars, tutorials and group discussions
- Practical workshops
- Writing essays and assignments
- Oral presentation
- Placement at Teaching Practice schools
- Self-evaluation
- Project work

Assessment

Knowledge is assessed by

- Coursework portfolio of Montessori activities
- Essays and assignments
- Oral presentation
- Practical and oral review
- Written, practical and oral examinations

Thinking skills are assessed by

- Pedagogical notes and questions for Coursework portfolio
- Essays and assignments
- Oral presentation
- Practical and oral review
- Written, practical and oral examinations

Practical skills are assessed by

- Practical and oral review
- Practical and oral examinations
- Teaching practice assessment
- Coursework portfolio of Montessori activities

Skills for life and work (general skills) are assessed by

- Project and coursework portfolio of Montessori activities
- Written essays and assignments

- Oral presentation
- Practical and oral Review

Students with disabilities and/or particular learning needs should discuss assessments with the Programme Leader to ensure they are able to fully engage with all assessment within the programme.

Work or Study Placements

As part of the Reflective Practitioner modules, you will be required to undertake compulsory teaching practice and observation in an early years Montessori environment run by an AMI Diploma holder. The duration is 170 hours made up of 80 hours of teaching practice and 90 hours of observation

This is split over 3 separate placements throughout the course and each must be at a different location.

The MMI allocates placements and appoints a mentor/assessor at each location. An assessment of the student is submitted after each placement. The majority of the placements are in the Greater London area.

Programme Structure

All programmes are credit-rated to help you to understand the amount and level of study that is needed.

One credit is equal to 10 hours of directed study time (this includes everything you do e.g. lecture, seminar and private study).

Credits are assigned to one of 5 levels:

- 3 Equivalent in standard to GCE 'A' level and is intended to prepare students for year one of an undergraduate degree programme.
- 4 Equivalent in standard to the first year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme.
- 5 Equivalent in standard to the second year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme.
- 6 Equivalent in standard to the third year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme.
- 7 Equivalent in standard to a Masters degree

Programmes are made up of modules that are each credit weighted.

The module structure of this programme:

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit Weighting	Core/Option	Available by Distance Learning? Y/N
4		Theoretical Foundations of Montessori Pedagogy I	30	Core	N
4		Montessori Curriculum -Practical Life	30	Core	N
4		Montessori Curriculum - Sensorial	30	Core	N
4		Montessori Curriculum – Language, Literacy and Maths 1	30	Core	N
4		Reflective Practitioner 1	0	Core	N
5		Theoretical Foundations of Montessori Pedagogy 2	30	Core	N
5		Montessori Curriculum – Language, Literacy and Mathematics 2	30	Core	N
5		Understanding of the World and Creative studies	30	Core	N
5		Statutory Guidance for the Early Years	30	Core	N
5		Reflective Practitioner 2	0	Core	N
5		Synthesis of Theory and Practice	0	Core	N

The overall credit-rating of this programme is 240 credits. If for some reason you are unable to achieve this credit you may be entitled to an intermediate award, the level of the award will depend on the amount of credit you have accumulated. You can read the University Student Policies and Regulations on the UEL website.

Programme Specific Regulations

Alongside the Foundation Degree, you will be awarded an Association Montessori Internationale Montessori Diploma - Casa dei Bambini, provided that programme requirements are met

Typical Duration

This is a full-time course taken over 2 years. Where necessary, the coursework portfolio of Montessori activities can be completed up to 12 months after the final examinations. Attendance in person would not be required in this additional period.

An evening part-time format is offered over 3 years.

The programme for this course will be

Year 1 - Theoretical Foundations of Montessori Pedagogy I, Montessori Curriculum - Practical Life, Montessori Curriculum – Sensorial, Reflective Practitioner I

Year 2 - Montessori Curriculum – Language, Literacy and Mathematics I, Theoretical Foundations of Montessori Pedagogy 2, Montessori Curriculum – Understanding of the World and Creative Studies, Reflective Practitioner 2

Year 3 - Montessori Curriculum – Language, Literacy and Mathematics 2, Statutory Guidance for Early Years, Synthesis of Theory and Practice

Further Information

More information about this programme is available from:

- The UEL web site (www.uel.ac.uk)
- The programme handbook
- Module study guides
- UEL Manual of General Regulations (available on the UEL website)
- UEL Quality Manual (available on the UEL website)
- School web pages
- The MMI web site (www.mariamontessori.org)

All UEL programmes are subject to thorough programme approval procedures before we allow them to commence. We also constantly monitor, review and enhance our programmes by listening to student and employer views and the views of external examiners and advisors.

Additional costs:

- Materials for Montessori material making – cost will not exceed £200
- You are required to have your own laptop.
- Travel costs in respect of teaching practice and observation placements may be incurred– this will depend on the location of the student’s accommodation and the mode of transport. Most placement schools are in the Greater London area.



Alternative Locations of Delivery

N/A