

EMTTA

Etonkids Montessori Teacher Training Academy

Beijing, China

Early Childhood

(2 ½ through 6 years of age)

MACTE accredited

AMS affiliated

Schedule and Application Process

2010-11

Guanhu International Tower #3, No.105 Yao Jia Yuan Road Chaoyang District,

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Etonkids Montessori Teacher Training Academy [EMTTA] conducts an Early Childhood Montessori teacher education course. This course prepares adults to work with children from the ages of 2 ½ through 6.

The program is offered in English and Chinese. The early childhood course is accredited by Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education [MACTE, macte.org] and affiliated with the American Montessori Society [AMS, amshq.org].

AMS offers three levels of certifications:

- ❖ AMS Credential for an adult learner whose degree is earned in a country outside of the United States and the degree has been evaluated and deemed equivalent to a U.S. bachelor's degree.
- ❖ AMS International Credential for an adult learner whose degree is earned in a country outside of the United States is not equivalent to a Bachelor's degree in the US. The International Credential will state the name of the home country of the recipient "BA or BS Awarded in *country name*"
- ❖ AMS Associate Credential for an adult learner having completed secondary education. The adult learner may also have some postsecondary education but has not completed a Bachelor's program.

EMTTA, as recommended by AMS, uses a team teaching approach in teacher education. The English-speaking and Chinese-speaking faculty and field consultants have a wide range of skills and keep up-to-date on recent research in the fields of education and human growth and development.

Each course requires the following components to be completed for certification:

- Attendance and participation in classes and labs
- Readings
- Written assignments, including album completions
- Material design
- Performance assessments
- Research Projects, including a year-long project
- Student teaching for 9 months in a classroom / environment
 - monthly seminars (in-person or by internet/Skype)
 - monthly practice labs
 - observation assignments

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of EMTTA is to prepare sensitive, warm, knowledgeable, caring adults for the important work of helping young children develop their full potential. We achieve this goal by creating a community of creative adults who learn together with more experienced, highly qualified Montessori educators.

We want our graduates to be prepared to work in multi-cultural settings, and in all varieties of programs. We prepare students who are open to change and who are committed to the highest standards for themselves, and for children and their families. Our graduates deeply understand early childhood (birth through 6 years of age) education and the uniqueness of the Montessori approach to education.

LOCATION: All workshops, lectures, and practice labs take place at Central Park Campus, Central Park Bldg 19 No. 6 Chaowai Dajie, Chaoyang District, Beijing, 100020. Classroom observations maybe held at Etonkids campuses or other Montessori Schools.

COURSE CYCLE includes the Academic and Practicum Phases, Modules I- III. The minimum time frame for completion of the certification course is twelve months. The next cycle begins on 1 July 2010 and ends on 30 June 2011.

The **Early Childhood program** is a minimum of 300 academic hours conducted in the summer [7 weeks] followed by three (3) weekend seminars and monthly tutorials / practice sessions during the school year. Qualified candidates who complete all course requirements and a practicum of at least 540 hours [3 hours a day] over one academic year in an approved classroom are recommended to the AMS for an early childhood credential.

Student teachers are encouraged to complete the program within three years after completion of the Academic Phase. Students who go beyond the three years will be required to retake some course components and be assessed an additional fee.

Before the Academic Phase begins, we recommend that students become familiar with Montessori ideas and view some Montessori classrooms.

Recommended books include:

- E. M. Standing, *Maria Montessori, Her Life and Work*
- Maria Montessori, *The Discovery of the Child*
- *The Absorbent Mind*
- *The Secret of Childhood*
- Carol Garhart Mooney, *Theories of Childhood: An Introduction to Dewey, Montessori, Erikson, Piaget, & Vygotsky*

We also recommend that students observe at three (3) kindergarten level schools. Two can be at any early childhood program. One should be at a Montessori school.

MODULE I: Summer Academic Phase: This module includes on-campus academic coursework, guided observation experiences, practice labs, readings, and material making. Assignments include readings, papers, and work on manuals [resource files].

For people with busy schedules, it is also possible to divide the summer coursework into two portions. The first portion can be taken one summer, and the second portion the following summer. Student teaching will take place after the completion of the full summer phase.

MODULE II Weekend Seminars [3] These academic seminars are held during the school year on Saturdays and Sundays, 8 AM. – 5 PM. They take place concurrently with student teaching. Typically practical exams are conducted during seminars. The practical exams are designed to determine competency in understanding of the Montessori philosophy and principles and use of materials. The candidate must be up-to-date on all assignments before taking practical exams.

MODULE III: Practicum Phase. Student teaching follows satisfactory completion of the full summer Academic Phase, Module I. The function of the practicum phase is to provide the students with a supervised teaching and learning experience and a period of observation, internalization, and further study to bring together the theory and practice of Montessori education. During the Practicum Phase students will participate in --

- monthly seminars and practice labs (in-person or by internet / Skype)

Observation assignments, research reports, completion of albums, additional readings, design and preparation of materials for each curriculum area, and a teacher portfolio are also required.

Student teachers will be visited a minimum of three times by a Field Consultant. If student teachers are in a self-directed practicum, each student teacher will receive additional support such as extra visits, contact with a local mentor teacher, communication by email or phone, etc. This extra support will be available or required on an individual basis according to the needs and experience of the student teacher.

No part of the practicum may precede the beginning of the academic phase of the course.



EMTTA TUITION AND FEES

English-language Early Childhood course 英文课程：

Application Fee 报名费：RMB 1,000元。Non-refundable

Tuition 学费：RMB 35,500元

Chinese-language Early Childhood course 中文课程：

Application Fee 报名费：RMB 1,000元。Non-refundable

Tuition 学费：RMB 35,500元

AMS & MACTE international credential fees: 2,200 RMB [estimated]

This fee will be collected mid-July 2010.

AMS International Fee with *Montessori Life* magazine \$165USD

AMS International Fee without *Montessori Life* magazine \$125USD

The tuition fee does **not** include: books and manuals, or any other costs that each individual may spend for the classes or assignments. The estimated cost is about RMB 2,000元.

Payments may be in cash, wire transfer, or credit card.

All fees must be paid in full before the candidate can begin the summer coursework.

Practicum Travel Fees

EMTTA pays all travel expenses for supervision of practicum in Beijing. Students or their schools pay for reasonable travel expenses, including lodging if needed, outside Beijing ring 6.

Refund Policy

- A. If a student is not accepted, all monies, except for the non-refundable application fee, are refunded.
- B. If a student withdraws in writing within 7 days of signing the enrollment agreement and paying the fee, all monies are refunded except for the non-refundable application fee.
- C. If a student withdraws after 7 days of signing the enrollment agreement and paying the tuition and before the start of the course component, RMB 4,000 is refunded.
- D. No refunds will be made once you begin the course.
- E. If for any reason the course is discontinued, you will receive a full refund of tuition excluding the cost of materials.
- F. Refunds will be paid within 45 days.

Notice of Withdrawal

We require notice of withdrawal in writing.

Certificate of Attendance

The complete early childhood certification course includes the Academic and Practicum Phases.

For those people who would like to omit the Practicum Phase, the Tuition will be 学费：RMB 25,500元

A Certificate of Attendance will be awarded upon successful completion of the Academic Phase requirements. The Attendance Certificate does NOT qualify the holder to apply the Montessori approach to the education of children in a Montessori setting nor to impart training in the Montessori approach to adults in any form. The Attendance Certificate does not give the recipient of the certificate permission to represent him/herself as an EMTTA or AMS credentialed Montessori teacher.

Transfer of Montessori early childhood coursework into EMTTA

From time to time students an individual with a bachelor's degree and a Montessori early childhood credential other than AMS may seek an AMS credential through EMTTA. The course director will direct an evaluation of the candidate's previous work following AMS guidelines, which includes the following:

- Assure the student is a member of AMS. Candidates can become members of AMS on amshq.org.
- Evaluate the credential and portfolio of the student and utilize proficiency testing to plan a program of study. An observation of the candidate as a teacher is required.
- Determine the minimum requirements of the academic phase that the student must take, except that the student must take EMTTA Montessori theory and philosophy and language arts.
- Determine that practicum requirements are consistent with AMS / EMTTA practicum requirements. Determine if any additional practicum requirements are required.
- Assess and evaluate proficiency as required by EMTTA, this might include written and/or practical exams.
- Assure that all the requirements of AMS / EMTTA are accomplished.

PROCESS: The *prospective* transfer student submits an application with the non-refundable application fee. If an interview with the student and a preliminary review of previous work indicates that this student may be a candidate for transfer into EMTTA, a full evaluation of previous coursework will be conducted. The fee for the full evaluation is RMB3,500. This fee is exclusive of any fees required to become a member of AMS / MACTE or to enter EMTTA.

Following the full evaluation, a written plan and costs will be sent to the prospective transfer student. This plan will allow the transfer student to enter EMTTA to earn the AMS early childhood credential. This plan might include retaking the full EMTTA course, taking some components, or completing a year of student teaching. NOTE: Acceptance of previous work toward advanced status will not reduce the applicant's financial obligation for full tuition and fees for the program.

ADMISSION / ENROLLMENT PROCESS

Applicants must have a high school diploma [a bachelors degree is preferred].

Applicants must --

1. submit the completed application form with the non-refundable application fee.

You are applying for

Early Childhood English _____

Early Childhood Chinese _____

Transfer of coursework into EMTTA _____

Certificate of Attendance _____

2. attend an interview or information session with a co-director or staff member
3. submit two original transcripts, in original language and a copy in English. The translation may be done by a lawyer, college/university, or professional evaluating organization that provides translation services. If you have a Bachelor's Degree, we encourage you to have the degree evaluated by World Education Services [wes.org].
4. submit 2 recent 1"x 1" photos
5. submit a one page essay on "Why I want to become a Montessori teacher."



EARLY CHILDHOOD [EC] COURSE

MACTE ACCREDITED

AMS AFFILIATED

The Early Childhood course focuses on understanding and supporting young children's development, ages 2 ½ through 6. Our candidates learn to document, analyze and reflect on observations of children, in order to individualize the curriculum. We encourage teachers to become reflective practitioners, committed to inquiry.

In the coursework and through the practicum, teachers learn to design the classroom's physical environment as well as specific materials that match each child's interests and capabilities. They learn to develop a collaborative social milieu (with children and parents), which respects individuality while celebrating differences.

The components of the Early Childhood Academic Phase include:

- Child Development/Psychology/Montessori Philosophy
- Observation and Recordkeeping
- Language Arts
- Cultural Studies – geography, sciences, parent partnerships, history
- Art, Music, and Movement
- Sensorial
- Practical Life
- Mathematics
- Classroom Management

The Student Teaching Phase, September – June, includes:

- Three (3) weekend seminars
- Nine (9) consecutive months internship, minimum of 540 hours
- Daily student teaching in a classroom -- minimum 3 hours a day, 5 days a week
- Work with a mentor teacher or participation in a self-directed internship*
- Monthly tutorials
- Monthly practice labs
- Additional Requirements:
 - research reports
 - observation assignments
 - material making projects
 - additional readings
 - creation of a professional portfolio

SCHEDULE OVERVIEW - Early Childhood [Ages 2 1/2 thru 6]

Before course begins: Read the listed books and observe in classrooms.

SUMMER MODULE I - 7 weeks, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Monday - Saturday 1 July 2010 – 14 August 2010

WEEK 1 [3 days]: 1 July – 3 July 2010 - Montessori Philosophy and Educational Practices

WEEK 2: 5 – 10 July 2010 - Child Development, Material Design

WEEK 3: 12 - 17 July 2010 – Practical Life

WEEK 4: 19 - 24 July 2010 – Language Arts

WEEK 5: 26 - 31 July 2010 – Observation, Parent Partnerships, Cultural Subjects: physical sciences, social studies, music and movement, arts

WEEK 6: 2 - 7 August 2010 – Observation, Sensorial

WEEK 7: 9-14 August 2010 – Observation, Math

MODULE II –

WEEKEND SEMINARS [3] Saturdays and Sundays, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Dates to be announced.

FALL SEMINAR [November] EXAMS

WINTER SEMINAR [January] - EXAMS, material-making projects

SPRING SEMINAR [March] - EXAMS, Arts workshop, material-making projects

TUTORIAL AND PRACTICE SESSIONS are held on Saturdays, 8:30 AM-1:30 PM six times a year.

MODULE III - PRACTICUM

September 2010 – June 2011, minimum of 540 hours, 5 days a week.

The practicum begins after successful completion of summer academic coursework.

EARLY CHILDHOOD COURSE COMPONENTS as required by AMS

Child Development (Min. 30 hours)

Examination of development from a variety of perspectives. Focus is on the early years and on working in collaboration with parents and caregivers. The teaching/learning process from infancy through middle childhood will be studied as it relates to the intrinsic and extrinsic motivation of children.

Montessori Philosophy and Educational Theory (Min. 35 hours)

Examination of the educational theory and key elements of Montessori approach to education. Classroom practices are examined in relation to the role of the environment, freedom, discipline, movement, order and the sensitive periods of the developing child. An exploration of the views of Montessori and her contemporaries are compared to current research.

Observation (Min. 45 hours) -

This course explores the power of observation as a learning tool for the teacher. Strategies for ongoing observations, analyzing observations, planning, and reporting tools. Observation assignments are required of each student during Practicum Phase.

Practical Life / Everyday Living Area (Min. 35 hours)

The adult will be introduced to the fundamentals of child-centered prepared environments and meaningful, hands-on materials/activities. Thorough grounding is provided in the relationship of order, coordination, concentration and independence to the intellectual development of the child. Emphasis on understanding the relationship between children's development, home and school contexts, the *curriculum*, and what is learned.

Sensorial (Min. 35 hours)

Rationale behind sensory-motor education with a focus on understanding the concepts embedded in Montessori materials. Theory and strategies necessary to insure refinement and education of the senses are the basis of this course. A focus will be on understanding the concepts embedded in Montessori materials. Discussion will focus on the child's discovery of the world through sensory experiences.

Math (Min. 35 hours)

Experiences / activities that support the development of mathematical thinking. Children's ability to problem solve, reason, and make mathematical connections is explored. The didactic apparatus for learning math, from numeration through the decimal system, is presented.

Language Arts (Min. 35 hours)

Emergent literacy development. A variety of activities, materials, and strategies – across curriculum – which facilitate children's emergent literacy (listening, talking, writing, reading, and thinking) development are examined. The course is designed to prepare the student to develop, equip and manage a logical language curriculum.

Cultural Subjects (Min. 55 hours)

Understanding the rationale behind including social studies, sciences and the arts in an early childhood curriculum. Strategies for integrating thematic units in arts [music, movement, two-dimensional and three-dimensional arts], science, geography, social studies and history, evaluating materials, and adaptations for diverse learners.

Practicum Student-Teaching (Min. 540 hours).

Practicum Seminars (Min. 35 hours)

Topics support student teachers' classroom work - classroom management, curriculum, and professional behavior.

Yearlong Project

This project provides an opportunity for creative and original thinking as well as synthesizing their learning across the curriculum. Projects might include: professional portfolio, research papers, longitudinal study of a child's development over the year, or original curriculum areas.