

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: 2011-12

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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 the 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 and is not equivalent to a Bachelor's degree in the U.S. 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 are 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, seminars and tutorials
- Readings with accompanying mind map reports
- Written assignments, including observation reports and completion of albums
- Material design projects for each area
- Performance assessments, including a year-long portfolio project
- Research Projects
- Student teaching for 9 months in an early childhood classroom plus -
 - attendance at six (6) tutorials (in-person or by internet/Skype)
 - attendance at three (3) weekend seminars [November, February, April]
 - completion of *Student Teacher Record* and *Practice Presentation Handbooks*

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 kinds 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.

LOCATIONS: Workshops, lectures, and seminars 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 upcoming cycle begins on 25 June 2011 and ends on 23 June 2012.

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 [minimum of 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. Students who go beyond five years will be required to retake the full course and be assessed the full fee at that time.

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 at a Montessori school.

MODULE I: Summer Academic Phase: This module includes on-campus academic coursework, guided observation experiences, practice labs, and assessments [practical exams]. Assignments include readings with mindmaps, papers, material-making projects, and work on manuals [resource files]. The candidate must be up-to-date on all assignments before taking practical exams.

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: Practicum Phase. Student teaching follows satisfactory completion of Module I. Student teaching consists of a minimum of 540 hours [minimum of 3 hours a day] over one academic year in an approved classroom.

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.

Etonkids Montessori Teacher Training Academy EMTTA Early Childhood

During the Practicum Phase, student teachers will attend six [6] Tutorials and three [3] weekend Seminars, and complete additional assignments.

Requirements during Practicum:

- Attendance at Tutorials and Seminars.
- Research projects and observation assignments
- Completion of albums
- Practical Exams
- Additional readings with mindmaps
- Material-design projects for each curriculum area
- Completion of a teacher portfolio, and *Student Teacher Record* and *Practice Presentation Handbooks*.



Weekend Seminars [3] These academic seminars are held during the school year on Saturdays and Sundays, 8:30 AM – 5:30 PM. They take place concurrently with student teaching. Additional 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. Student teachers will be visited a minimum of three (3) 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.

Tutorials These six [6] Saturday tutorials, 8:30 AM – 5:30 PM (in person or by internet/Skype) provide additional support for students to complete assignments.

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

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

Tuition : RMB 35,500元

Chinese-language Early Childhood course :

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

Tuition : RMB 35,500元

AMS & MACTE international credential fees: 2,400 元 RMB [estimated]

This fee will be collected mid-July 2011.

AMS International Fee with *Montessori Life* magazine \$200USD

AMS International Fee without *Montessori Life* magazine \$160USD

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 summer coursework.

Practicum Travel Fees

EMTTA pays all travel expenses for supervision of the practicum in Beijing. Students pay for reasonable travel expenses, including lodging if needed, outside Beijing Ring 6.

Refund Policy

1. If a student is not accepted, all monies, except for the non-refundable application fee, are refunded.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. No refunds will be made once you begin the course.
5. If for any reason the course is discontinued, you will receive a full refund of tuition excluding the cost of materials.
6. 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 RMB 25,500元

A Certificate of Attendance will be awarded upon successful completion of the Academic Phase requirements, both summer and year-long 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 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 that the student is a member of AMS. Candidates can become members on amshq.org.
- Evaluation of the credential and portfolio of the student, and use 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 the student's previous 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元. This fee is exclusive of any fees required to become a member of AMS / MACTE.

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 EMTTA 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.

OPTIONS INCLUDE:

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. Translation may be done by a lawyer, college/university, or professional evaluating organization that provides translation services. If you have a Bachelor's Degree, 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 course components of the Early Childhood Academic Phase include:

- Child Development / Psychology / Montessori Philosophy / Other Educational Philosophies
- Sensorial [sensory-motor] Education
- Observation, Analysis, Planning, and Recordkeeping Protocols
- Practical Life / Daily Living Activities
- Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Cultural Studies – geography, sciences, parent partnerships, history, social studies
- Art, Music, and Movement
- Classroom Management strategies that fosters individualized instruction

The components of the Student Teaching Phase, September – June, include:

- 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
- Attendance at tutorials [6] and weekend seminars [3]
- Completion of Additional Academic Requirements:

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

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

MODULE I – SUMMER 7 weeks, 8:30 AM – 5:30 PM, Monday - Saturday 25 June 2011 – 7 August 2011 Total of 39 days / 292 hours

WEEK 1 [2 days]:	25 – 26 June 2011	Montessori Philosophy, Educational Practices
WEEK 2:	27 June – 2 July 2011	Montessori Philosophy, Child Development, Environmental and Material Design
WEEK 3:	04 - 09 July 2011	Practical Life, Observation
WEEK 4:	11 - 16 July 2011	Language Arts, Observation
WEEK 5:	18 - 23 July 2011	Sensorial, Observation
WEEK 6:	25 - 30 July 2011	Math, Observation
WEEK 7 [7 days]:	01- 07 August 2011	Parent Partnerships, Observation, Cultural Subjects: physical sciences, social studies, music and movement, arts

MODULE II – Student Teaching with seminars and tutorials

PRACTICUM September 2011 – June 2012, minimum of 540 hours, 5 days a week.
The practicum begins after successful completion of the summer academic coursework.
No part of the practicum can precede the academic coursework.

SEMINARS [3] Saturdays and Sundays, 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM.

FALL SEMINAR	November 2011	exams, material-making projects
WINTER SEMINAR	February 2012	exams, material-making projects
SPRING SEMINAR	April 2012	exams, material making projects

TUTORIALS [6] are held on Saturdays, 8:30 AM-5:30 PM, six [6] times a year.

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 the 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 are developed. 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 ensure 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. EMTTA conducts weekend seminars [3] and Saturday tutorials [6] to meet this requirement.

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. EMTTA recommends developing a professional portfolio as the yearlong project.
