



## Infant Toddler Programme

### *Training Montessori Teachers of Children Ages 0 to 3 Years*

The Toronto Montessori Institute is dedicated to inspiring and preparing adults to understand the application of Montessori philosophy in the classroom and in their world.

This diploma course will provide opportunities to develop knowledge of human development and Montessori theory relevant to children ages 0 to 3 years.

#### THE FOLLOWING AREAS WILL BE EXAMINED IN DETAIL:

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##### MONTESSORI PHILOSOPHY

This component offers an overview of Dr. Montessori's principles and ideas as they relate to the child from birth to three years. It includes Montessori's observations of child development and the crucial principles related to care of the newborn, symbiosis, the spiritual embryo, the absorbent mind, sensitive periods, pre-language and language development, movement development and activities including music and art.

##### CHILD DEVELOPMENT: PRENATAL TO THREE YEARS

The birth process, the father's role and the process of parenthood are explored. The interaction between heredity and the environment is analyzed, followed by a study of physical, cognitive, emotional, social, neurological and psychological development.

##### ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN

A basic understanding of the importance of Montessori's environment and its effect on the development of the child are examined. Fundamentals relating to space and aesthetics are explored in relation to the child's sensitive periods. Aspects of design related to governmental legislation are covered.



### LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION

This component offers strategies for managing an effective programme that reflects historic Montessori principles, including an overview of administrative issues.

### PARENT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

This course highlights the importance of the relationship between the child's family and the Montessori Infant and Toddler Programme. The skills necessary for creating and developing support with families, together with the benefits of mutual cooperation are taught. The course also examines the ability to interpret Montessori philosophy as it pertains to the child, to their caregiver(s) and to the community, in a respectful and culturally sensitive way.



### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Personal growth, cognitive and spiritual development and standards of professionalism and ethical behaviour are explored in relation to fundamental Montessori principles. They are considered in light of Dr. Montessori's vision of education for peace.

### OBSERVATION

Techniques for record keeping are taught, together with strategies for developmental assessment.

### PRACTICUM STUDENT TEACHING

This phase provides the student with a period of observation and a supervised teaching experience in an approved Montessori learning environment. Interaction with children allows the internalization, integration and application of Montessori theory in practice. This component includes 400 hours during which the student observes, assists and participates in the host learning environment.

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Evaluation criteria include minimum 90% attendance, participation in class discussions, written observation notes and analyses, presentations, compilation of manuals, essays, a child development time-line, practice teaching, oral and written examinations.

In 2005/2006 the Infant Toddler Course will be offered in the Summer format, from June 27, 2005 to August 16, 2005. The Teaching Practicum will take place during the academic year, September 2005 to June 2006. There will be a review and examinations week beginning June 26, 2006.

*For more information, or to reserve a spot for one of our open houses, please contact:*



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