

Montessori Education Career Growth & Demand Trends

The Future is Montessori

Montessori education is the fastest growing reform of education today. Young people going into the field of education are showing greater interest in learning the philosophy and psychology of successful student teaching through Dr. Montessori's methodology of education. The fundamental principles of Montessori education have been validated by the latest developmental and educational research fostering an increased interest in Montessori's methods, especially in the public school sector of the United States.

Montessori Method

One hundred years ago, Maria Montessori, the first female medical doctor in Italy, created a very different method of educating young children based on formal observations of how they naturally absorb knowledge. Children gain knowledge best, Montessori believed, through a personally active learning process that centers on their innate curiosity, concentration, and intentionality for learning.

Montessori Methods Emphasize

- Independent, student-initiated work
- Problem solving
- Mixed age groupings
- Flexible pacing
- Freedom of movement

Subjects are interwoven; the teacher acts as a guide; and portfolio assessments and assessments using the Montessori materials are given instead of written tests and grades. She developed many of the ideas still taught in today's Montessori training courses, and having founded "Education for Peace" Dr. Montessori has twice been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Phenomenal Growth in Popularity

Since Dr. Montessori's reformation of educational practice, a growing number of educators and parents have embraced her principles, which has caused a phenomenal growth in popularity of Montessori schools nationally and internationally.

Dr. Montessori's first school opened in 1906, and her model of education has continued to thrive for over 100 years in almost every country in the world. With the growing popularity of Montessori schools in the public sector in the United States, there is simultaneously a shortage of Montessori educators that is more critical than the shortage in the traditional teaching sector.

Because Montessori schools are spread all over the country and Montessori pedagogy is not supported in most university teacher-training programs, prospective teachers are finding it harder to receive training even if they are willing to travel five hundred miles or more to do so.

The shortage of teachers and training programs has become a critical problem. There are not enough properly trained Montessori teachers and administrators world-wide to meet the demands of Montessori school needs.

The main professional organizations in the United States included: The American Montessori Society (AMS), Association Montessori Internationale (AMI), and Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education (MACTE).

To be certified under these credentials, a Montessori teacher must:

- Have between 200 and 350 face-to-face hours of instruction at a certified training center.
- Go through a year as a student teacher under a certified Montessori educator who has taught at least 2 years
- Have three observations in the classroom by a supervising teacher during their internship year.
- Complete a year-long project, as well as lesson resource albums in every major curriculum area.

Today, according to the American Montessori Society's website, there are 1,100 Montessori schools affiliated with AMS and only seventy affiliated, teacher-training programs in the United States: seventeen in the Northeast, thirteen in the Midwest, twenty-six in the Southeast, nine within the Plains states, and eleven in the Western states.

Records Show - Potential Masters Degree Pool of Students

- Approximately 4,500 Montessori private schools in the U.S.
- Approximately 350 Montessori magnet schools in the U.S.
- Approximately 120 charter schools in the U.S.
- The American Montessori Society only graduated 500 teachers in 2012 from all of their affiliated teacher-training courses
- There are Montessori schools in every country in the world (except North Korea, Somalia, and Cuba)
- Over 1,000 in Japan alone
- Estimated 50,000 international Montessori schools

The Situation

The influence of Montessori on mainstream education is growing once more. The biggest obstacle to keeping up with the demand is well-trained and experienced teachers who understand both the philosophy and methodology. A second obstacle in getting teacher training to schools all over the world in a more efficient way than the present model of face-to-face only. Otherwise, the demands will continue to outstrip the supply.

We believe it is time to modernize Montessori teacher training and use the internet as a way to disseminate her excellent model of education as efficiently as possible. We believe there will be a tremendous demand for this Internet-based training, especially as it relates to teachers in the public sector who are working to get master's degrees in education.

Through video presentations and video lectures on philosophy and pedagogy, the demand can be met, while maintaining high pedagogical standards of the Montessori curriculum.



The Solution

We welcome you to Sarasota University, partnering with Montessori Live, answering the demand for advanced Montessori education online. Sarasota's programs offer a web-based learning opportunity designed to enhance or start a career in Montessori education through the flexibility of online learning.

You now have the opportunity to earn your masters degree in Montessori education from Sarasota University, along with your Montessori (MACTE) teaching certificate.

Top 10 Reasons to Earn Your Masters Degree in Montessori Education Online from Sarasota University

1. You will earn a Masters Degree in Montessori Education with Montessori Teacher Certification (MACTE) that is accepted nationally
2. You will earn a Montessori Leadership Degree to meet the demand for new Montessori Administrators
3. You will have the convenience of attending regularly scheduled classes from your home or office
4. You will eliminate daily or weekly travel to your learning site
5. You will be able to satisfy increasing state standards in becoming a Highly Qualified Teacher
6. You will become an expert in the field of Montessori Pedagogy
7. You could increase your earning potential by approximately \$11,000 per year with a Masters Degree compared to a Bachelors Degree (National Association of Colleges and Employers-NACE, September, 2012)
8. You will develop your personal/professional strengths to maximize your classroom effectiveness
9. You will develop national and world-wide professional relationships and networks
10. You will be able to maximize the use of your available dollars by obtaining a cost-efficient higher education degree and certification.

For more information, admissions, and enrollment at Sarasota University, please visit www.sarasotauniversity.org



The Internet Based Teacher Training Center
for Montessori Teachers Worldwide