

AMI 3-6 Assistants Certificate Course

International Certificate Course for assistants in Montessori Primary Classrooms.

The course is also suitable and beneficial to school administrators and parents.

Goal of the Course: The intention of the Assistants Course is to help interested adults become able assistants in a Montessori Children's House. The task of the Assistant is to support and help the teacher maintain equilibrium within the class, to observe, to learn when and how to intervene and not interfere, to acquire the ability to allow the children to become more and more independent, to gain knowledge of Montessori's understanding of Freedom and Discipline, to acquire the ability to support the development of the child by assisting the teacher.

Trainer: Elina Rautasalo, Czech Republic

Course language:

English, with interpretation of the spoken word to Czech and possibly other languages. All course work, including written assignments, can be done in English, Czech, Slovakian, Bulgarian and Hebrew. Students need to have an adequate level of English, Czech, Slovakian, Bulgarian or Hebrew to take the course.

Obligatory reading:

The Secret of Childhood, The Absorbent Mind - available in English and Czech languages. The Child in the Family, Education for a New World - available in English language. Students who do not read English will receive selected quotes from these texts translated to Czech.

Requirements for Certification:

- Submission of three papers (500 words) on topics set by the Trainer during the period of the Course.
- 9 hours of observation.
- Submission of observation notes and observation report.
- Submission of handmade materials.
- Submission of any other work as given by the Trainer.
- Minimum of 90% attendance.

The Course Content:

- I. Introduction to Montessori
- II. The Role of the Directress
- III. The Role of the Assistant
- IV. Overview of the Planes of Development
- V. The Child's Mind from 0-6 years, Sensitive Periods
- VI. Order: The importance of Order and Precision, Order in the development of personality
- VII. Movement 0-6: Development of Movement and its significance for the child
- VIII. Language: Development of, also taking into account the following elements:
 - Preparation of the adult, Use of language in general
 - Vocabulary: correct, precise, rich, scientifically exact
 - How to listen to children, How to elicit language
- IX. Independence: development, physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual, interdependence
- X. Prepared environment: Home and Casa dei Bambini (the physical and the intangible)
- XI. Freedom and Discipline: Concept from MM point of view, growth of Discipline as inner development
- XII. Social Development

- XIII. Observation and its relevance (technique and recording of)
- XIV. Music and Art
- XV: Maintaining the environment (indoor and outdoor)

Further content: Reading of MM texts and discussion. Practice of basic movements: walking, carrying trays, chairs, materials. Opening and closing doors, drawers, as models for the children in a Montessori Prepared Environment. Essential grace and courtesy - greeting children, giving appropriate assistance in the cloakroom. Introduction of techniques for making, mending and maintaining materials.

Price: 800 Eur / 20 000 Kč. After you register on the website through the website registration form, you will be contacted by our financial manager regarding payment. Lead Montessori participants, schools which send 3 and more students and returning clients are entitled to a 15% discount.

Equal Opportunity Policy. MIP is committed to achieving equality of opportunity for all people who work and study at the Institute. If you have any special learning needs, and need any accommodation to help you or special support, please let us know during your application process.

How to apply: Enrollment criteria: adequate level of English, Czech, Slovak or Hebrew to enable efficient study in the course, ability to study at a higher academic level, positive motivation to study and willingness to positively and constructively cooperate with the Course Director and Co-Director and the training center staff, filled out online application form and payment of the first part of the fee. Computer availability and good access to the Internet for the whole time of the course and a quiet place to study are required. **Students who will not have these conditions for their study in the course will be asked to leave the course.** When we receive your application package, we will review it and let you know the result of the enrollment process. Every student who fulfills the enrollment criteria will be accepted to the course.

Online format:

- There will be live lectures given by trainers on “Zoom” platform.
- Course work and course communication will be done on platform “Schoology”.
- The course requires general ability to use computers and the internet and willingness to learn to use Zoom and Schoology platforms.
- Students will receive technical support during the period of time when the course is given.