

Online AMI 6-12 Assistants Certificate Course

International Certificate Course for assistants to Montessori elementary teachers.

The course is also suitable for administrators of schools and parents.

Goal of the Course: The intention of the international AMI Assistants Certificate Course is to help interested adults become able assistants in a Montessori Elementary Classroom. In a Montessori classroom, the assistant supports the lead teacher and helps him/her to create and retain balance. He/she observes children and knows when to intervene and when to withhold from helping. He/she knows how to support children in developing independence and has a deep understanding of Montessori's approach to freedom and discipline. He/she is a great supporter for the lead teacher and for the child.

Trainers: Cordula Arana, Switzerland

Duration: 60 hours of lectures and independent work total. 9 additional hours of obligatory observations. Specific instructions on how to observe will be given during the Course, taking into account the restrictions which may be imposed by Covid 19.

Course language:

- English, with interpretation of the spoken word to Czech **and possibly other languages**. Students need to have an adequate level of understanding English, Czech, Slovakian or Hebrew to take the course.
- Written coursework, the written assignments, can be done in English, Czech, Slovakian, and Hebrew.
- If there is interest, the possibility of interpretation into other languages can be consulted with the Course Director.

Obligatory reading: To Educate the Human Potential, The Formation of Man, Education and Peace, Other readings may be included.

Requirements for Certification: Submission of three papers (500 words) on topics set by the Trainer(s) during the period of the Course. 9 hours of obligatory observation. Submission of observation notes and observation report. Submission of any other course work assigned by the Trainer(s). Minimum of 90% attendance. More information about requirements for certification will be given at the beginning of the Course.

The Course Content:

- I. Introduction to Montessori
- II. Introduction to Montessori's theory of human development
 - Needs and tendencies
 - Self construction
 - Four planes of development
 - Characteristics of child in second plane
- III. The prepared environment for the second plane
 - The elementary teacher
 - The materials
 - Other adults (assistant, experts)
- IV. The plan for the elementary child
 - Cosmic education
 - The pedagogical techniques (examples of lessons may be included)
 - Role of teacher (transmitter of knowledge, inspiration)
 - Class composition (mixed ages, sufficient children)
 - Story telling/oral introductions (Great Stories/ other stories)
 - Content knowledge (key lessons)
 - Sensorial/imaginative presentations, leading to abstraction
 - Develop imagination, leading to creativity

- Awareness of necessity for social/moral development
- Going Out (implementing the child's self construction)
- Other adults (there is more outside the classroom)

V. Freedom and responsibility

- Freedom as applied to child in elementary environment
- Responsibility as applied to child in elementary environment

VI. Interacting with the elementary child

- Manner of speaking to a child
- Appropriate direction for a child
- Manner of redirecting child

VII. Assisting the trained teacher:

- Have regular meetings with the teacher
- Observation of the children that supports the work of the teacher/child
- Maintenance of the environment
- Ordering supplies
- Accompanying children on Going Outs
- Role Model for appropriate classroom behaviors (language, movement, activity)
- Maintaining confidentiality.

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. Schools which send 3 and more students and/or 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, Slovakian 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. **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.