



INDABA INSTITUTE

AMI MONTESSORI DIPLOMA
PRIMARY (3-6)

Course Brochure



LOCALLY
RELEVANT

QUALITY

AUTHENTIC

COMMUNITY
BUILDING



Course Description:

An in-depth study of Montessori pedagogy focusing on the developmental needs of children from three to six years of age.

Qualification Delivery:

At least 400 hours of classroom-based training including lectures, a minimum of 140 hours of supervised practice with Montessori materials and 170 hours of observation and teaching practicum in Montessori settings.

Application Requirements:

- South African students: NQF Level 4 or equivalent
- International students: A-Level or equivalent
- Proficient in spoken and written English.

Application Documents:

- Complete application form
- Clear copy of ID or Passport
- CV (outlining academic and employment history)
- Copy of your highest-level education certificate – NQF Level 4 or equivalent (for South African students)
- Copy of your highest-level education certificate - A-Level or equivalent (for International students)
- Two signed letters of recommendation, including contact details of reference
 - One being professional in nature
 - One being a character reference
- Short autobiographical essay (details in Student Handbook)
- Valid police clearance certificate (details in Student Handbook)
- Application fee proof of payment

Qualification Award:

The AMI Diploma is granted upon satisfactory completion of the following course requirements:

• Attendance

90% minimum attendance in course lectures and activities, including supervised practice.

• Theory Album

Compilation and submission of an acceptable theory album.

• Reference Albums

Compilation and submission of acceptable and original reference albums in all areas.

• Material Making

Submission of acceptable material making assignments.

• Theory Papers

Submission of acceptable and original theory papers.

• Observation

170 hours of observation training, on site and in Montessori settings.

• Practice Teaching

Practice teaching in a Montessori environment.

• Written Examinations

Passing marks of 50% or higher on the written examinations.

• Oral Examinations

Passing marks of 50% or higher on each area of the oral examinations.



Required Reading:

By *Dr Maria Montessori*:

1. The Secret of Childhood
2. The Discovery of the Child
3. The Absorbent Mind
4. The Formation of Man
5. Education and Peace
6. The Advanced Montessori Method, Vol. 1
7. The Four Planes of Education (*AMI Pamphlet*)

By *Mario M. Montessori, Snr*:

8. The Human Tendencies and Montessori Education (*AMI Pamphlet*)

Recommended Reading:

By *Dr Maria Montessori*:

1. From Childhood to Adolescence
2. To Educate the Human Potential
3. Education for a New World
4. The Child in the Family
5. The Child, Society, and the World

By *Silvana Quattrocchi Montanaro, MD*:

6. Understanding the Human Being

By *Mario M. Montessori, Jnr*:

7. Education for Human Development

By *E.M. Standing*:

8. Maria Montessori, Her Life and Work

Course Units:

TITLE	CODE	DESCRIPTION
The Montessori Philosophy, Psychology and Child Development	AMID201	This course component introduces Dr Maria Montessori's philosophy and psychology of human development, focusing on early learning and child development from three to six years of age.
The Child's Acquisition of Fundamental Learning Skills	AMID202	This course component introduces the exercises of daily life (practical life). These exercises promote coordination of movement, independent function, social grace, self-esteem, impulse control, empathy, attention, and concentration through the integration of mind and body.
The Development and Education of the Senses	AMID203	This course component introduces the activities known in Montessori education known as Exercises for the Education of the Senses. These are designed to lead the child to an intelligent and imaginative exploration of the world. Content includes identification of a child's process of classifying his world, problem solving, decision making and critical thinking.



Course
Units:

TITLE	CODE	DESCRIPTION
		This area includes extensions in the areas of music, geometry, geography, and botany.
Language and Literacy	AMID204	This course component introduces exercises for the development of spoken and written language, reading readiness, pre-reading and reading skills appropriate for children ages 3-6. Content includes a focus on self-confidence and self-expression within a social setting. There is also emphasis on spoken and written language in the areas of daily life, storytelling, composition, literature, geography, history, biology, science, music, art, as well as the functional aspects of grammar, syntax, and reading analysis.
Mathematics	AMID205	This course component is designed to explore the way in which a young child develops their 'mathematical mind' and to show by demonstration and lecture the Montessori activities that provide sensorial foundations for geometry and algebra, counting and arithmetic.
Montessori Materials and their Role in Assisting Child Development	AMID206	The aim of this subject is to acquire a deep understanding of the qualities of the Montessori materials and their function as aids to child development.
The Critical Role of Observation	AMID207	The aim of this subject is to observe children in Montessori classrooms in order to appreciate the role of observation as a major source of information about the child. Through the experience the student will come to realise the role of exact, detailed, objective observations in facilitating a greater understanding of the Montessori theory of growth and development. An additional aim is to raise awareness of the importance and nature of the interactions between the child, the adult, and the prepared environment.
Montessori Professional Experience	AMID208	The aim of this subject is to provide the opportunity to work under the direction of a qualified and experienced Montessori teacher, to apply the acquired theoretical knowledge of child growth and development to practical situations in established Montessori classrooms.



Course
Units:

TITLE	CODE	DESCRIPTION
Educational Theory and Practice	AMID209	This subject will introduce students to a selection of theories of education and child development. The students will be introduced to the profound nature and effects of parent/child issues on the development of young children.
Administration	AMID210	This subject will assist in informing and preparing students for the administrative and professional environment in which they are likely to be working.
Legal Issues and OHS	AMID211	This subject will assist in informing and preparing students for the administrative and professional environment in which they are likely to be working.
Reading and Discussions Sessions	AMID212	The students are to read books and make use of them for both their written work/essays as well as practice with material and related discussions. The course reading list includes required and recommended titles.
Written Work	AMID213	Each student shall compile an individual manual for each area of the Course. These manuals should include an introduction to each area; a description of each piece of material; the age of the child working with the material; and the aims and purposes of the material. The manuals are the student's personal record of their course work; the work is supervised with a final assessment at the end of the Course. In order to clarify the basic points connected with Montessori child psychology the students are to write essays on topics supplied by the Course.
Material Making	AMID214	Under supervision students will also engage in material making. All such materials are checked by the Trainer(s).



Indaba Institute

The Indaba Institute was founded in 2017 by André Shearer to address the many social injustices in South Africa that are rooted in trauma and neglect experienced as a child. Our Institute empowers individuals, especially women, to become community shaping exemplars in the face of gender-based violence, deep societal inequality, and a legacy of racial prejudice. We collaborate with our partners through a shared vision to bring quality education to all communities and transform society by utilising the marvelous potential of the child.

The Indaba Institute is a Non-Profit Organisation (NPO) associated with the Department of Social Development.

The Mission

The mission of the Indaba Institute is to bring about human development through high quality education, and we do this by offering teacher training that is accessible and locally-relevant.

AMI Montessori Training

The Association Montessori Internationale accredits training centres throughout the world. These centres offer AMI diploma courses that are internationally recognised for their high standard and authenticity.

The courses offered by the Association Montessori Internationale prepare adults to work with children at the following levels: Assistants to Infancy (0-3), Primary (3-6), First Plane (0-6) and Elementary (6-12).

Each year thousands of teachers and classroom assistants are trained worldwide. The number of AMI teachers graduating is still less than demand which is due to the worldwide recognition of the quality of the AMI Diploma.

All training centres are staffed by highly qualified AMI teacher trainers, and a pedagogical team of experienced advisors ensures that the objectives of Maria Montessori's pedagogical principles are maintained. Students are examined by external examiners, appointed by AMI, to further ensure the high standard and integrity of the courses. Training centres may also run courses at more than one geographical site.

