MONTESSORI EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP - MA

Montessori Education and Leadership

The Montessori Education and Leadership Program is a master's level program that recognizes and acknowledges the graduate-level work done by Montessori teachers in their teacher education programs. The program offers credentialed teachers 15 graduate credits for their Montessori teacher education and offers a pathway through which Montessori teachers can achieve a Master of Arts in Education degree. This program is online and can be completed in a year.

Coursework includes support in critical inquiry and reflection, alongside scaffolded critical reading and writing practice, ending with an Action Research project. Through this program, you will deepen your understanding of Montessori pedagogy with an Anti-Bias, Anti-Racist lens. Your courses are taught by instructors who are Montessori trained.

This program is suited for both classroom teachers and leaders in education. Throughout the program, you will choose areas of research that will further inform your work as an educator and continue the ongoing preparation of the Montessori Educator.

To be admitted to the Montessori Education and Leadership Program, the applicant must meet all graduate admission standards and procedures for the Master of Arts in Education Program, including having a GPA of 3.0 or above. In addition, the applicant must meet the following requirements:

1. The applicant must possess a valid Montessori credential for Infant/Toddler (ages 0-2.5), Early Childhood (ages 2.5–6), Elementary I (ages 6–9), Elementary I-II (ages 6–12), or Adolescent (12-18). This must be a full Montessori credential, not a provisional, temporary, or associate credential.
2. The applicant must have received his or her Montessori teacher education through the American Montessori Society, the Association Montessori Internationale, or another fully MACTE accredited Montessori Center.
3. The applicant must have had a verified baccalaureate degree upon entering the program.
4. The applicant's Montessori teacher education was not applied to any other degree or program besides his or her original Montessori credential.

Years to Complete the Program

This is a one-year program completed with a cohort that begins and progresses through coursework together. However, if students need additional time to complete their program, all coursework must occur within seven years of the start of the first course taken in the program.

Transfer Credits

Recognizing Prior Montessori Training

In the Montessori Education & Leadership program, students earn graduate credit for their completed Montessori certificate or diploma. Individual certificates or diplomas earned through MACTE (http://www.macte.org/)-accredited teacher preparation programs are evaluated and granted graduate credits at St. Catherine University. Infant/Toddler, Early Childhood/Primary, Elementary, or Adolescent credentials are all eligible for the 15 graduate credits.

Note: Students who have any questions about MACTE accreditation are referred to www.MACTE.org (http://macte.org).

Progression Policy

In order to remain in good standing, students must fulfill the following:

- maintain an overall 3.0 grade point average.
- earn a grade of B– or better in each graduate course.
- successfully complete each assignment.
- adhere to the department's criteria for professional/ethical behavior, integrity, honesty, personal behavior, respect for others, and the Minnesota code of ethics for teachers.

Conditions for Probation

Students will be placed on probation for one term for any of the following reasons:

- lack of attendance and participation (90% attendance is required in the entire program).
- a grade lower than a B– earned in any course.
- overall GPA is less than 3.0.
- failure to fulfill the department's criteria for professional/ethical behavior, integrity, honesty, personal behavior, respect for others, or violations of the Minnesota code of ethics for teachers.
- violation of the Institution's policy on academic integrity (Note: St. Catherine expects all students and faculty to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity. Any act of academic dishonesty threatens the value of all scholastic endeavor.)
- violation of the Institution's policy on student conduct.

A student must complete the next segment of the program with grades of B- or better.

At the end of the probationary period, the student may be removed from probation, placed on extended probation or suspended

In addition, removal from probation will occur when the following program conditions have been met:

- Incomplete, F, or other grades below B- converted to B- or better.

The Admissions and Retention Committee will identify the conditions of academic probation in writing. Failure to meet the written conditions for probation or to bring the grade point average to 3.0 by the end of the term on academic probation will result in automatic suspension from the program under ordinary circumstances.

Under extraordinary circumstances, students may petition in writing to repeat a course, but may not take the next courses in sequence unless the petition has been approved and the conditions for continuance agreed upon. Decisions regarding petitions will be made by the Admissions and Retention Committee.

Removal from Probation

A student must complete the next segment of the program with grades of B- or better. If the student does not qualify for removal from probation but shows significant improvement, the student may be placed on extended

probation. At the end of the probationary period, the student may be removed from probation, placed on extended probation or dismissed.

In addition, removal from probation will occur when the following program conditions have been met:

- Incomplete, F, or other grades below B- converted to B- or better.

Removal from probation, which had been imposed for violations of the department's criteria for professional/ethical behavior may require action by the Policies Committee or other University authority. In this case, removal from probation may not always be possible.

Conditions for Program Dismissal

Program dismissal will result as a consequence of the following:

- If conditions for removal from probation are not met

Violations of the department's criteria for professional/ethical behavior, integrity, academic integrity, honesty, personal behavior, respect for others or violations of the Minnesota code of ethics (https://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/arule/8700/7500.html) for teachers will require special action by the Admissions and Retention Committee or other institutional authority.

Conditions for Readmission to the Program

A student who has discontinued program coursework for any reason - academic disqualification or personal reasons - must contact the Office of Graduate Admission to complete the readmission process. Readmission to the program will occur when the following conditions have been met.

- Readmission has been approved by the program director and/or chair of the Education Department
- A reasonable study plan has been made and mutually agreed upon by the student and program director/chair/academic advisor

Readmission may not be possible after the violation(s) of the department's criteria for professional/ethical behavior, integrity, academic integrity, honesty, personal behavior, respect for others, or violations of the Minnesota code of ethics (https://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/arule/8700/7500.html) for teachers. Readmission will require special action by the Admission and Retention Committee or other institutional authority.

Curriculum

Code	Title	Credits
EDUC 6210	Critical Studies in Montessori Education	3
EDUC 6220	Holistic Practices for Community & Self	3
EDUC 6230	Education Leadership	3
EDUC 6670	Introduction to Action Research	3
EDUC 6760	Advanced Action Research	3
EDUC 8920	Action Research Project	1
EDUC 7915	Montessori Certification Cred	15
Total Credits		**31**

Students may choose to start this program either in a Spring or Summer semester. The plan of study below is reflective of both Spring and Summer starting terms.

Code	Title	Credits
Term 1		
EDUC 6210	Critical Studies in Montessori Education	3
EDUC 6220	Holistic Practices for Community & Self	3
Term 2		
EDUC 6670	Introduction to Action Research	3
EDUC 6760	Advanced Action Research	3
Term 3		
EDUC 6230	Education Leadership	3
EDUC 8920	Action Research Project	1
Total Credits		**16**

EDUC 7915 Montessori Certification Cred is awarded for previous Montessori credential.