



## Parent-Infant and Child Facilitator Course Syllabus

An 8-week online, collaborative process, to help you create an environment where children and adults learn and grow together

### Course Description

The Parent-Infant and Child Facilitator Course (PICC) is an introduction and exploration in the creation and facilitation of a Parent-Infant and Child program, or Montessori Playgroup. During this course you will learn how to apply Montessori philosophy, principles, and practices to help guide and support children and adults (parents, grandparents, caregivers) in your environment.

Students move over six weeks of discovery and learning through video, written, audio, and experiential exercises that make up the course material. We will also be meeting live together twice each week, through Zoom, as well as two additional live Mentoring meetings. See below for dates.

### Who This is For

Perfect for Montessori teachers, schools, administrators, and for anyone intending to begin a class or program in your community, in service of children and families.

### Course Activities

You can create an album or binder for copies of readings and handouts and experiential activities if you choose. You can also save content files for easy access. Course work, including viewing webinars, videos, audio recordings, and reading handouts, will take approximately 4 - 6 hours each week. All course materials and assignments will be delivered in weekly modules. You are, too, encouraged to comment/interact in the course each week, to create connections within your cohort.

Attending to your course work in a timely manner will help you to stay in the flow of the course, to interact with fellow students, and to move on to the next week. I encourage you to print hard copies of handouts, as some will be helpful to refer to during videos or for review offline.

Each week will include assignments that must be completed and emailed to me upon completion of the course for you to receive a Certificate of Completion. These assignments will be clearly noted with an \*. You may choose to email these to me during the course as you complete them. Please send your assignments through Google Drive to share with me, or through a folder with each week's assignments as word documents, or (if needed) as a screen shot. Remember to place your name on each assignment.

### **Participation in Twice-Weekly Zoom Video Classroom**

This is a central feature to your course, as it is here where you bring your questions, reflections, and will interact with Pamela and your learning community regarding your studies and experiences over the week. It can be useful to note down questions during the week that you want to bring to our sessions, as this is your time to do so. To receive a Certificate of Completion, you must attend each online meeting. If you have questions, please contact Pamela.

### **Observation and Other Experiential Assignments**

Observation is central to Montessori: to the study of the child and of ourselves. This practice is a valuable process for you to reflect on what you are viewing, experiencing, sensing, and perceiving. Each week will include a focus on observation to deepen your experience and understanding. Experiential processes are designed as ways to integrate what you are learning, in holistic ways.

### **Preparation of the Spirit**

Along with Observation, this is the touchstone in practicing Montessori, whether in the classroom environment or in our daily lives. Each week you will have opportunities through experiential, video, or written work, to allow for this continuous study.

## **Course Schedule**

### **Welcome!**

- Course Navigation
- Course Syllabus
- Getting to know you! (Through our Discussion area)
- New to Zoom?

### **Week 1 – Intro to The Parent-Infant and Child program (intention, materials, purpose)**

- January 11 - 17
- Zoom meeting: Wednesday, January 14, 8 pm – 9 pm ET

- Zoom meeting: Saturday, January 17, 10 am – 11 am ET

### **Week 2 – Environment for the Child – (welcoming, observation, mindfulness)**

- January 18 - 24
- Zoom meeting: January 21, 8 pm – 9 pm ET
- Zoom meeting: Saturday, January 24, 10 am – 11 am ET

### **Week 3 – Environment for the Adult ~ Creating a bridge (an exploration of Guidance)**

- January 25 - 31
- Zoom meeting: Wednesday, January 28, 8 pm – 9 pm ET
- Zoom meeting: Saturday, January 31, 10 am – 11 am ET

### **Week 4 – Guiding Adults and Children (freedom, autonomy, limits & values)**

- February 1 – 7
- Zoom meeting: Wednesday, February 4, 8 pm – 9 pm ET
- Zoom meeting: Saturday, February 7, 10 am – 11 am ET

### **Week 5 – The First Prepared Environment (prenatal life, birth, first 40 days)**

- February 8 - 14
- Zoom meeting: Wednesday, Feb 11, 8 pm – 9 pm ET
- Zoom meeting: Saturday, Feb 14, 10 am – 11 am ET

### **Week 6 – Integration and Embodiment (community, modeling, at home)**

- Feb 15 - 21
- Zoom meeting: Wednesday, Feb 18, 8 pm – 9 pm ET
- Zoom meeting, Saturday, Feb 21, 10 am – 11 am ET

### **Zoom Mentoring Sessions**

- Wednesday, March 11 at 8 pm ET
- Saturday, April 18 at 10 am ET