

CMSTEP Synthesis Paper and Final Exam for Credential and/or Xavier M.Ed.

Instructions and Self-Assessment

WRITE ONE PAGE FOR EACH NUMBERED TOPIC BELOW.

- Title each of the 7 pages.
- Use single line spacing.
- Over the course of the entire paper make an attempt to use each reference.
- Within the text of each topic page, note a reference in this way: (Childhood to Adolescence 79).
- At the end of each topic page, list the references used in this way: Montessori, M. (1973/1948). From childhood to adolescence. NY: Schocken Books, 79.
- Use accurate grammar, spelling and punctuation, etc.

Clearly address your understanding of the following topics:

✍1. After rereading a variety of sources and having multiple discussions what is your understanding of Cosmic Education? What is the role of Cosmic Education in the development of the adolescent?

✍2. What are the important components that Montessori elementary students have received in their Montessori education before coming to an adolescent program AND what are the specific lessons and materials from the upper elementary classroom that you have used when you wrote your curricula?

✍3. In which of the key elements of a Montessori adolescent program do you demonstrate skill, and which need further development? (Refer to “Observing the Montessori Secondary Classroom” and “Checklist of Essential Montessori Practices.”)

✍4. Outline a plan for further development of your personal self as it relates to your teaching self.

✍5. By this time you have implemented the coursework you designed. Reference the strengths and weaknesses of the two specific cycles of study and one field study you have created and submitted to the CMStep web site.

✍6. In what ways have the CMStep courses supported you, and what recommendations do you have for the training course in the future? What workshops or retreats would you like to see held by CMStep?

✍7. What will you carry forward from this training: What inspired you? What surprised you? What moved you?

Since readings vary from year to year, please include other readings you have that are not listed. Reference the following list of readings and resources.

Books: *Maria Montessori (biography)*, *Brainstorm*, *Teaching with Love and Logic*, *The Way of Mindful Education*, *A New Earth and/or Nurturing the Spirit*, *Teach Like Your Hair’s On Fire*, *Spitwad Sutras*, *Montessori Today*, *Children of the Universe*, *Learning Leadership*, *From Childhood to Adolescence*, *Appendix B (Erkinder Essay)*

Articles/Handouts: “What’s the Difference?...” (and other readings from www.cmstep.com), “Four Planes of Development” and Montessori’s lectures (and other readings from *Philosophy and Intensives*), “Seven Gateways” (from *Soul of Education*), “Flow, and other readings from *Erkinder*, CD, POP, and S&O.

Videos: *The Art of Leadership*, *Montessori Middle School*, *Catching Kayla*, *Seeing Red Cars*, *Charter for Compassion*, and videos from the cmstep website and courses.

- Print, complete, scan, and attach the self-assessment page (next page).
- Submit the entire seven-page paper to katie@cmstep.com and martadonahoe@gmail.com with the subject line, <Your Name> *Final Synthesis Paper*.

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Please print, complete, scan, and attach this page with Final Synthesis Paper

NAME _____

DATE _____

- A** Instructions followed with accuracy. The exam reflects your clearly articulated evidence of understanding of Montessori methodology (with reference to readings and coursework) and discusses how that methodology specifically shows up in your curriculum design and classroom practices. Each of the seven topics (above) is clearly addressed.
- B** Instructions followed with accuracy. The exam reflects a good amount of evidence of understanding of Montessori methodology (with reference to readings and coursework) and discusses how that methodology specifically shows up in your curriculum design and classroom practices. Each of the seven topics (above) is addressed.
- C** Instructions followed with accuracy. The exam reflects some evidence of understanding of Montessori methodology (with reference to readings and coursework) and discusses how that methodology shows up in your curriculum design and classroom practices.
- D** The exam reflects an inadequate level of evidence of understanding of Montessori methodology (with reference to readings and coursework) and discusses how that methodology shows up in your curriculum design and classroom practices.
- F** Your exam lacks evidence of understanding of Montessori methodology (with reference to readings and coursework) and does not satisfy a discussion regarding how that methodology shows up in your curriculum design and classroom practices.

Final Grading XU Scale

97 percent to 100 percent = A
93 percent to 96 percent = A-
90 percent to 92 percent = B+

87 percent to 89 percent = B
84 percent to 86 percent = B-
81 percent to 83 percent = C

<p>Adult Learner Assessment with Required Rationale Comments</p> <p>GRADE _____</p> <p>Rationale:</p>	<p>CMStep Director Assessment</p> <p>GRADE _____</p> <p>Rationale:</p>
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Signed _____

Signed _____