

Apprentice Trainer Program Syllabus
The Right Paw

Learning Theory Unit

- The 4 quadrants of learning theory, how to apply them to dogs and people.
- Operant vs Classical Conditioning.
- Luring vs Shaping.
- Reward Schedules (variable, intermittent, continuous).
- Dopamine Effect.
- Counter Conditioning vs Desensitization.
- Flooding.
- Windows of opportunity (Jay Jack).
- Layered stress model (Chad Mackin).

Socialization Unit

- What is proper socialization?
- What socialization means to client's vs professionals.
- Critical period of development.
- Fear periods.
- Body language.

Equipment

- Proper use of prong collars, slip leads, harnesses, e-collars, clickers, treat pouches, head halters, and more.
- Determining what tool is right for a dog and client in a given situation.
- Conditioning to tools.
- Develop a long-term plan for the tool. Will it be used for life or faded out of training?

Group Class Unit

- Learn The Right Paw curriculum for puppy and basic obedience training.
- How to set students up for success in and out of the classroom.
- When to suggest privates vs group class training.
- How to manage a group.

Private Lesson Unit

- Interviewing clients before working with them, to define clear goals and set realistic expectations.
- Develop a training plan.
- Management vs training.

Play

- Food play.
- Toy play.

- Personal play.
- Play with other animals.

Health & Husbandry

- Proper nail clipping.
- Proper brushing, bathing, ear cleaning.
- What is bloat?
- When to stop training and call the vet.
- Health before training.
- Dog food, what should we feed our dogs?
- Proper chews/dental health.
- Vaccinations.

Training Problem Solving

- Assess your plan, is it working?
- Dog problems: lack of understanding, lack of motivation, lack of ability.
- Human problems: lack of practice, lack of interest in subject, lack of ability.
- Proofing.

Misc.

- Box Feeding.
- LIMA.



The
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Obedience School