

Professional Obedience Course: Obedience Training and Behavior Modification

This course is available from 4 weeks to 12 weeks long and is fully integrated into the 6 month Master Course. In addition to the theory outlined here, students also will have hands on opportunities to work with any and all dogs in our pet training program. Our pet training program brings in over 20-25 dogs a month of different ages, breeds, and temperaments, with unique problem behaviors.

- A. Training in Drive v. Training out of Drive
- B. Conditioning theory: classical and operant conditioning
- C. Balanced approach: Reward & Correction modalities, tools, and procedures.
- D. A General Theory of Balanced Training: TK9 Training Program
- E. Temperament and Training considerations.
- F. Marker Training
 - 1. Verbal markers
 - 2. Clickers
 - 3. Markers, reinforcement markers, and terminal markers
 - 4. Positive and negative markers
 - 5. Lure-reward methodology
 - 6. Free-shaping methodology
- G. Practical Obedience Training
 - 1. Attention Heeling on and off leash
 - 2. Heeling under distraction, distraction and decoy neutrality.
 - 3. Pressure heeling
 - 4. Place boards, and directional sends
 - 5. Change of positions
 - 6. Recalls, go outs, finishes, sit on recall, down on recall.
 - 7. Sit, down, stay.
 - 8. Motion exercises: techniques
 - 9. Sequences of behaviors: back-chaining.
 - 10. Retrieve training
 - 11. Tactical Obedience Techniques: between the legs contact heeling.
- H. E-Collar Usage: Theory & Application
 - 1. Theory: negative reinforcement and Positive Punishment
 - 2. Low-level stimulation techniques
 - 3. Classical conditioning and correction pairing techniques
- I. Practical Agility Training
 - 1. Jumping & Climbing
 - 2. Slick Floors
 - 3. Open Stairs
- J. Cross-Over Effects: Obedience Interactions with other phases of training
- K. Behavior Modification Techniques
 - 1. Temperament Considerations
 - 2. Techniques for Changing Behavior: Remove Stimulus; Punishment (+P,-P); Command Control; Counter-Conditioning (systematic desensitization both active and passive).
 - 3. Solving Common behavior problems in pets and working dogs: prey and defensive aggression problems, housetraining, digging, barking, barrier frustration/leash reactivity, dog-dog aggression issues, OCD issues.