



## Forever Friends Dog Training and Urika Behaviour Consultants Trainer Apprenticeship Program Professional Canine Instructor Certificate, 1 Year Program

Forever Friends Dog Training and Urika Behaviour Consultants offer unique and cuttingedge services including a variety of general group classes, specifically targeted training classes, one-on-one training, group and private behaviour consultations in-home or in-office, pet assessments, training and certification for Service Animal Teams and an emergency 24 hour calling service. We use applied science-based techniques with a focus on positive reinforcement. Students will observe our staff as we teach clients about the benefits of rewarding wanted behaviour as opposed to punishing unwanted behaviour.

Our mission is to help establish or restore harmony and balance between owner and pet by providing the client with the necessary knowledge and teaching to work effectively with their animal. By creating individualized behaviour modification and training strategies to suite the clients specific needs, we optimize their success as work towards their personal goals. We provide the client with a sense of partnership and support as we assist them in working with their animal.

### **INTAKE INTERVIEW:** (1 hour)

This is an initial meeting for serious students only (those who are ready to enroll in the program). The purpose of the interview is to confirm that our training program suits the students needs, and that the student is comfortable and confident in our philosophy and methodology. Student should be prepared to make tuition payment, sign a liability waiver and non-compete contract, and discuss course content.

### **Module 1: Puppy Observation** (6 weeks: 1 hour class weekly, 1/2 hour feedback meeting weekly) *Total in-class time: 9 hours Total self study time: 18 hours*

Students will be required to observe a full 6 week series of the Puppy Program. They will be encouraged to take notes and follow the class curriculum closely. The student will meet with the School Director/Owner (Cheryl Smith) and/or the Course Instructor weekly for a half hour appointment to address questions concerning training material and techniques. Students may have the opportunity to observe more than one series of classes at any time.

### **Module 2: Puppy Participation** (6 weeks: 1 hour class weekly)

*Total in-class time: 6 hours Total self study time: 18 hours*

Students will participate in a full 6 week group Puppy Program either using their own dog or one selected for that purpose. The Puppy Program requires the dog to be under 17 weeks of age.

### **Module 3: Basic Observation** (6 weeks: 1 hour class weekly, 1/2 hour feedback meeting weekly) *Total in-class time: 9 hours Total self study time: 18 hours*

Students will be required to observe a full 6 week series of our Basic Program. They will be encouraged to take notes and follow the class curriculum closely. The student will meet with the School Director/Owner (Cheryl Smith) and/or the Course Instructor weekly for a half hour appointment to address questions concerning training material and techniques.



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**Trainer Apprenticeship Program**  
**Professional Canine Instructor Certificate, 1 Year Program**

**Module 4: Basic Participation** (6 weeks: 1 hour class weekly)

*Total in-class time: 6 hours Total self study time: 18 hours*

Students will participate in a full 6 week group Basic Program either using their own dog or one selected for that purpose. The Basic Program is designed for dogs who have no prior formal training and are usually older than 17 weeks when they begin the program.

**Module 5: Behaviour Theory** (4 weeks: 1 hour Consultant Meetings/weekly)

*Total in-class time: 4 hours Total self study time: 20 hours*

To be an effective and knowledgeable dog trainer, one must obtain a basic knowledge of Canine Behaviour and Learning Theory. Reading references will be assigned and students will be responsible for acquiring and reading the designated material. Practice Questions will be available for each of the selected reading materials. Completing these Practice Questions is not mandatory, but they will provide students insight to the most relevant content that will be the basis for their **Basic Behaviour Theory Test\* (BBTT)**. Students will then be required to complete their BBTT which will demonstrate their general understanding of canine behaviour. Students will meet with one of our Urika Animal Behaviour Consultants for an hour, bi-weekly for Q&A session.

*\* Students must pass this test with a grade of 70% or higher to move to the next phase.*

**Module 6: Assisting** (6 weeks: 1 hour class/ weekly & 1/2 hour feedback meeting weekly)

*Total in-class time: 9 hours Total self study time: 18 hours*

Students will provide assistance **as directed by** an instructor in a full 6 week Group Training Program. They may choose either the Puppy Program or the Basic Program. They **may** provide one-on-one assistance, **under supervision of the instructor**, for clients who require extra help with specific training techniques. Students should be prepared to arrive early and remain after class if needed. During this phase, students will be encouraged to communicate with their Instructing Mentor by email, or before and after class for clarification and feedback.

**Module 7: Exam** (4 weeks) *Total in-class time: 3 hours Total self study time: 20 hours*

**Part A: Practical Training Exam** (2 hours) value 50%

Students will complete a 2 hour Practical Training Exam at the School. Students will be tested on their ability to teach a dog each cue covered in the curriculum of the training program in which they have assisted. They will also be tested on their ability to accurately apply and explain a variety of appropriate training techniques that could be used to resolve a common training problem with a client. Comments and advice will be given to help students prepare for Part B. **\*A total grade of 90% or higher must be obtained to move to the next phase**

**Part B: Client Training Exam** (1 hour) value 50%

Student will further demonstrate their ability to teach not only canines, but their humans as well. Students must demonstrate their ability to teach clients clearly and successfully.



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## Module 8: Teaching (6 weeks: 2 hour class weekly)

*Total in-class time: 12 hours Total self study time: 18 hours*

Students will teach a full 6 week training program **under supervision by** an experienced instructor. They will be expected to arrive at the training center half an hour before class to review class material and answer questions, **under supervision by** an experienced instructor, from clients who need clarification on class program material. Additionally, Student Instructors may also be required to clean the training hall before their class begins and set up any necessary equipment. After the class is completed they will meet with their Instructing Mentor for a half hour to discuss the class.

## Cost

Cost for this program is \$1700.00 + GST

The amount is due at the time of enrollment (Intake Interview) and is non-refundable.

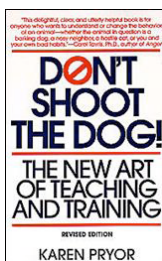
Cost of reading materials not included. Students will be required to purchase the required text on their own. The cost of any required extensions is not included in the above tuition fee.

## Graduating

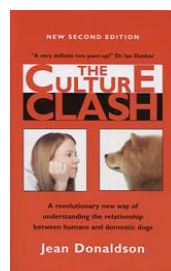
In order to obtain a **Canine Instructor Certificate** the student must successfully complete all eight program phases. Students must adequately demonstrate their understanding of behaviour theory (phase 5) by passing their Basic Behaviour Theory Test (BBTT). Student must demonstrate their ability to teach not only dog but their owners as well through successful completion of the Practical Training Exam & Client Training Exam. Our school holds a high standard for learning that students must meet in order to graduate the program and receive their certificate. Make-up exams and program extensions can be requested and will only be granted at the discretion of the instructor with an additional fee.

## Books

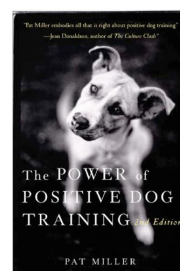
Below is a list of required reading material: Don't Shoot The Dog (Karen Pryor), The Culture Clash (Jean Donaldson), The Power of Positive Dog Training (Pat Miller), and Before & After Getting Your Puppy (Dr. Ian Dunbar). These books are intended to become part of the participants resource library.



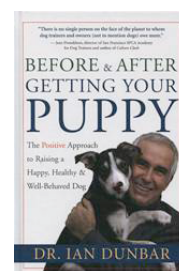
Author: Karen Pryor  
ISBN: 0553380397



Author: Jean Donaldson  
ISBN: 1888047054



Author: Pat Miller  
ISBN: 9780470294093



Author: Dr. Ian Dunbar  
ISBN: 1577314557



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**Completing the Program**

Students are given 1 year (52 weeks) to complete (8 Phases) their program requirements. Students who have completed at both phase 1 & 2, but have not satisfied all the program requirements within the provided time frame, can reenroll in the program for the reduced rate of \$550 +GST and continue taking the program from phase 3. (If special circumstances arise we will certainly take them in to consideration on an individual basis).

Each class is 1 hour in length and is held once a week (students should be prepared to arrive earlier and stay later). Class schedules change frequently, usually taking place on weekday evenings or on Saturday mornings. Students can choose to participate in a class which suits them best. Once you have chosen a class please stick with that class for the duration of that phase. Much of the theory work is done independently. Appointments must be made with the school for tests, exams, and feedback meeting. Please book ahead of time to ensure that you meet your deadline.

***Total Program in-class time: 59 hours Total Program self study time: 148 hours***

**STUDENT NOTES**

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