

SOPHOMORE LEVEL

Teaching Classes

- What do the best instructors have in common?
- Ring-leader blindness
- Ratios of dogs to instructors/assistants
- Developing assistants
- Premises and gear
- Dog screening and legalities
- Course evaluation findings
- Curriculum planning priorities
- Training skills for owners
- Puppy and basic class sample curricula

Dog Behavior

- Economics of behavior: what is behavior *for*, anyway?
- Understanding evolution, behavior and selective breeding
- Proximate and ultimate causes of behavior
- Action pattern categories: the big ticket tasks of living
- Social facilitation
- Dog developmental periods
- Dog social organization
- Fight/flight behaviors
- Feeding: predation and scavenging
- Courtship and reproductive behavior
- Dog body language
 - Observation versus interpretation
 - Signs of fear and stress

Pro-social behavior

Threat

Teaching kids to be safe around dogs

Play

Play is expensive behavior: so why do animals do it?

Topography of play

Evaluating play

Conflicts: internal and external

Breaking up dog fights

Behavior Problems

Pet dog trainer's intervention arsenal

First-line strategies for most common behavior problems

Normalizing of normal behavior

Diagnostic flow-charts

Veterinary referral indicators

Separation anxiety versus garden-variety owner-absent problems

Behavioral management: setting dogs up for success

Exercise and mental stimulation

Training

DRI, DSCC, other training strategies

Functional analyses

What about extinction?

Housetraining in detail

Chewing in detail

Digging in detail

Jumping up

Food stealing, garbage raiding, pestering for food or attention, pica

Pulling on leash gear

Barking

Types of barking

Solutions in detail

Barrier frustration

Dogs and cats

Separation anxiety