



Noah's Arks Training Program

By Jeff Coltenback

The following curricula are intended for Noah's Arks personnel to familiarize themselves with some knowledge and information prior to and throughout the training program scheduled with me. The goal and purpose is to prepare them so they have a better understanding of canines and dog training. In addition to the questions below, all participants must watch the videos prior to the first meeting with me. The questions/assignments below have been extracted from some of my 12 course program offered at www.ThePetCareInstitute.com. This is a consolidated knowledge based program for Noah's Arks **ONLY**. The primary focus of the training will be geared towards basic training, handling and addressing common behavioral problems. Your students need not actually complete the assignments below as they are not enrolling in my certification program. But, the information is vital to their knowledge base. The assignments below are part of each of the respective courses from my program. Again, this is a consolidated curriculum.

Course 101

Suggested websites: <http://www.wolf.org> - www.wikipedia.org - www.peteducation.com - www.google.com

1. What is the scientific classification of the wolf? What is the scientific classification of the domestic dog?
2. Research and explain Dominance Hierarchy in the animal kingdom. Limit your answer to 2 paragraphs
3. In 1-2 paragraphs explain the history of the domestic dog. Include comments on selective breeding throughout history. You may also reference selective breeding based on geography (different parts of the world) and you may cite selective breeding for a period of time in history.
4. Find canine body language postures and describe each posture. You may copy and paste images into your document (cite source). Be sure to include the entire body as it relates to what each posture is intended to communicate (i.e. dominance, aggression, submission, etc..)
5. **Definitions** - Instructions: Write out the definition for each word below.

Evolution - Taxonomy – Ethology – Instinct - Habituation – Imprinting – Imitation - Predation – Territory
Territoriality - Dominance - Deference – Pack

Course 102: Psychology and Learning Theory

Suggested websites: www.wikipedia.org – <http://psychology.about.com> - www.peteducaton.com - www.google.com

1. Essay: Write a 1-2 page essay on Classical Conditioning? Tip: You will need to research and understand “conditioned stimulus” and “unconditioned stimulus”.
2. What is Extinction? This can be utilized in both Operant and Classical Conditioning. Describe in as much detail as possible. Hint: In a later course we will be utilizing extinction to eradicate certain behavioral problems in dogs.
3. 2-Part Question: What is Operant Conditioning? How does it differ from Classical Conditioning? Here is your generous hint: <http://psychology.about.com/od/behavioralpsychology/a/classical-vs-operant-conditioning.htm>
4. Essay: In 1-2 pages (more if needed), describe in detail the following: Positive Reinforcement; Negative Reinforcement; Positive Punishment; Negative Punishment. Offer specific examples of each.
5. Find a diagram/flow chart of Operant Conditioning. (hint: +R, -R, +P, -P)
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operant_conditioning
6. Using the following link or another link, describe in detail what shaping is. You must offer a specific example of how shaping is used in conditioning animals. Link: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shaping_%28psychology%29
7. Using the following link (or one of your choice), explain in 1-2 paragraphs “fight or flight” response. Be sure to include its origin. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fight-or-flight_response

Common phrase to know: **“To mark a behavior”**: This term is used in dog training to describe the act of acknowledging or validating a dog’s successful behavior. When you teach a dog to sit, you “mark” the behavior when the dog performs the behavior correctly. During shaping, you may “mark” different stages of learning with a treat or praise. When the dog learns the behavior being taught, you mark the successful behavior. I offer this explanation as it is often difficult to find. Additionally, this phrase may be used throughout this course and throughout your career. Marking = acknowledgement (praise, treat, etc)

Course 103: Breed Characteristics and Behavior

Suggested websites: www.akc.org - www.ukcdogs.com - www.google.com - <http://www.adba.cc/>

Complete the following assignments. All written assignments must be submitted in Microsoft Word or PDF formats. Please be sure to check grammar, spelling and punctuation. The ability to communicate in written form is very much a part of the entire program. All answers must be clear and concise. Incomplete or vague answers will be marked as Fail.

1. What is the AKC? (i.e. name, history, overview)
2. Briefly describe the characteristics of each of the following AKC groups: Herding – Hound – Non-Sporting – Sporting – Terrier – Toy – Working
3. **Read Only Assignment:** Know this→ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canine_terminology

Course 104: Training Tools & Safety

Suggested websites: www.google.com

1. Familiarize yourself with the following tools. Attach pictures of each tool to your submitted coursework with a brief description of each tool (1-2 sentences)

Leash – Retractable leash - Buckle collar - Martingale collar – limited slip collar – slip lead – prong collar

Starmark Collar (<http://starmarkacademy.com/products/pro-training-collar>) – Muzzle – Basket Muzzle – Harness

No-pull harness – Halti – Gentle Leader
2. Video Assignment: Watch Training Tool video.
3. Review the Safety Tips document. No assignment here. But, it could be on the final!

Course 105: Introduction to Obedience Commands

1. **Introduction to obedience:** Review the following websites about obedience: Write a one-two page essay on the common denominators regarding dog training.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Obedience_training
<http://www.nylabone.com/dog-101/training-behaviors/obedience-training/>
<https://www.aspca.org/pet-care/virtual-pet-behaviorist/dog-behavior/training-your-dog>
2. **Video Tutorial – Obedience Overview:** Video lecture; about obedience, 3 W’s, 3 T’s,
3. **Video Tutorial – Obedience Commands – part 1 & 2:** Come, Sit, Down, Stay, out (drop it), place, heel, leash, etc
4. **Read “Tips for teaching the come command”**

Course 106: Common Behavioral Problems

Suggested Websites: www.google.com

1. **Housebreaking:** Review PDF file, and then offer a solution to this problem not listed.
2. **Crate Training:** Review PDF file, and then offer an exercise to crate training not listed.
3. **Video Assignment “Common Behavioral Overview”:** <http://www.jeffcoltenback.com/course-106.html>
4. **Video Assignment “Corrections Overview”:** <http://www.jeffcoltenback.com/course-106.html>
5. **Training/Stimulation/Games:** Listen/watch at: <http://www.jeffcoltenback.com/course-106.html>
6. **Training Games PDF:** Read only assignment.

Course 107: Relationship & Leadership

Suggested Websites: www.google.com – www.JeffColtenback.com - <http://suzanneclothier.com/articles> - www.wikipedia.org – www.psychologytoday.com

1. **Relationship Overview Video:** Establishing, building and maintaining. Walking vs. exercise; Meeting the dog's basic needs; assignment at end of video.
2. **Introduction to Leadership:** Read Leadership Tips PDF (no submission required but could be on final)
3. **Intro to Decision Making:** Read Decision Making PDF (no submission required but could be on final)
4. **Read "Foofie Dog Syndrome" PDF**

Course 108: Severe Behavioral Problems

Suggested Websites: www.google.com – www.asPCA.org - <http://suzanneclothier.com/articles> - www.wikipedia.org – www.dictionary.com - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dog_aggression

1. **Severe Behavior Problems Overview Video:** Write a brief synopsis about the video.
2. **Breed Tendency Assignment:** Research and offer at least one dog breed from each of the AKC groups you learned about in Course 103 that are prone to a certain behavioral "problem". For instance, a certain breed of dog may be prone to territoriality or protectiveness. Such a dog will often be labeled as having a behavioral problem. But, in reality, that particular breed is actually behaving like the breed standard can behave. Or, maybe a certain dog has high prey drive. Is it a behavioral problem or a breed trait? See where this is going?
3. **Read Only Assignment:** A Good PDF on fearful dogs: <http://www.apsofdurham.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/01/Calming-Fearful-Dogs1.pdf>
4. **Leash Anxiety PDF:** Read only assignment: Handout from my Leash Anxiety workshop
5. **Food Aggression/Resource Guarding:** Read <https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/virtual-pet-behaviorist/dog-behavior/food-guarding>
6. **Essay:** Review the following website and write a 1-2 page essay on what you have learned and/or how this information has impacted you (negatively or positively). Feel free to offer points of disagreement as well. <https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/virtual-pet-behaviorist/dog-behavior/aggression-dogs>
7. **Tools-Gear Video:** Watch only. Website to buy protective gear is: <http://www.animal-care.com/>