

Private Lesson Series

The Private Lesson Series is designed to be the most flexible means of training your dog. The Series can be tailored exactly to your schedule and your dog's needs.

How does the Series work?

The first lesson is held at your home to customize the program to your particular dog, environment, and needs. The lesson begins with a detailed behavior interview that provides a complete picture of your dog, your situation, and any specific problems you may be experiencing. This lesson can take up to 2 hours.

Subsequent lessons are held here at the Dog Ranch and last approximately one hour. Please be prepared to give your full attention to your dog and the lessons (no cell phones, pagers, etc. unless an emergency), and to start on time. You may want to come a little early to allow your dog sufficient potty time.

The last lesson is your choice – you may work here on specific problems you may still be having, or go to a more public area (ie: park, Petsmart, the vet...) for work with increased distractions.

The private lesson series can also be held entirely at your home for an additional fee if you prefer.

What training methods do you use?

All my teaching is based on a combination of a knowledge and understanding of canine behavior, learning theory, and motivational training using primarily positive reinforcement. I do believe in interrupting and redirecting inappropriate behavior (usually done with a vocal signal, ie: "AH-AH!") when necessary. I do not use choke collars, prong collars, or physical punishment.

What can I expect at the end of the Series?

That depends largely on you and your dog! Graduates of the Private Series are usually somewhere in between Levels 2 and 3 in the Canine Academy Classes (see enclosed outline). Should you wish to move your dog to the Academy Classes upon completion of the Private Lesson series, you may join the Academy Classes at Level 2 for 20% off the regular class price.

Where are you located?

Southwest, in the Oak Hill area, near the Circle C golf course. Directions are on the back of the enclosed Canine Academy Class Outline (the purple sheet).

What does it cost?

\$540.00 for five lessons – at least six hours of training. For lessons held entirely at your home, the cost is \$690.00 for the series.

Private Lesson Series Outline

The basic lesson plans are outlined below and can be adjusted to suit your specific needs. The program must be completed six months from the first lesson.

- Lesson 1:
- Orientation (canine behavior, leadership, handling)
 - Creating a mark word
 - Body Handling
 - Toss the Treat: Phase 1 (basis for Leash walking and Recalls)
 - Target
 - Name Game
- Lesson 2:
- Positions
 - Attention
 - Recall Rules & Games
 - Toss the Treat: Phase 2
- Lesson 3:
- Leash walking, Recalls, Positions (building on foundation work)
 - Recall from distractions
 - Stay
 - Watch
- Lesson 4:
- Leash walking, Recalls, Positions (continue building on foundation work)
 - Wait at the Door
 - Leave It
 - Finish
 - Emergency U Turn
 - Tricks: Shake & Spin
- Lesson 5:** •Your choice! Work here on specific problems,.meet somewhere else with even more distractions (a park, Petsmart, the vet's office...), or finish up any exercises we didn't get to in the other lessons.

THE HUMANER TRAINER'S CANINE ACADEMY CLASSES Outline & Schedule

LEVEL 1 – ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • Wednesdays 8:00 p.m.

- Week 1 – Orientation; Target, Attention; Creating a Mark Word
- Week 2 – Beginning Leash walking; Positions (sit, stand & down); Recalls
- Week 3 – Extending Leash walking; Review positions; Recall practice; Prep for Stay
- Week 4 – Stay; Extensive Leash walking exercise
- Week 5 – Leash walking, Stay, and Recall Practice; Finish Left; Wait at the Door
- Week 6 – Practice all skills; Watch, Leave it; Tricks: Spin & Shake

LEVEL 2 – JUNIOR HIGH • Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

- Leash walking – with attention, strategies for “sled dogs”
- Recalls – short distances/mild distractions, on & off leash
- Positions – verbal and hand signals separate
- Stay – sit and down
- Tricks: High Five & Bang (Play Dead)

LEVEL 3 – HIGH SCHOOL • Tuesdays 7:00 p.m.

- Leash walking – adding patterns and finish
- Recalls – increasing distance and distractions
- Positions – at your side
- Stay – increasing distance & duration, mild – moderate distractions
- Tricks: Roll Over & Crawl

LEVEL 4 – COLLEGE • Tuesdays 8:00 p.m.

- Leash walking – changing speed, off-leash work, increase level of distractions
- Recalls – away from distractions
- Positions – at a distance
- Stay – more distractions and distance
- Practice exercises required in American Kennel Club's Canine Good Citizen Test®*
- Tricks: Retrieve, Weave & Bow, Beginning Agility Obstacles

CANINE ACADEMY WEEKDAY CLASSES: Level 1 meets Thursdays at 10am. Since attendance at the weekday classes is lower than the evening classes, all upper levels (2-4) meet together Thursdays at 9am in the “little red schoolhouse” fashion. Students perform exercises in a group setting, but at their individual skill levels.

* The AKC's Canine Good Citizen Test involves: Accepting a Friendly Stranger, Sitting Politely for Petting, Appearance & Grooming, Walking on a Loose Leash, Walking Through a Crowd, Sit & Down on Command/Staying in Place, Coming When Called, Reaction to Another Dog, Reactions to Distractions, Supervised Separation.