



CANINE BEHAVIOUR COURSE MUMBAI 2021

All of us have seen a thin, small lady unsuccessfully digging her heels into the ground as she is dragged along by a huge galloping dog or a tiny fluffy Pomeranian barking savagely as it grabs a visitors leg. Such sights are amusing at best but can be downright dangerous especially to the person at the other end of the leash!

Dogs make wonderful pets but sometimes problems may arise which can put a strain on the dog and the owner. Problems arise due to a variety of reasons, dogs are animals and without proper upbringing they will behave badly. They will soil your house, destroy your belongings, bark excessively, dig, fight with other dogs and even bite you. Nearly all behaviour problems are perfectly normal canine activities that occur at the wrong time or place or are directed at the wrong thing.

Dogs need a lot of time and patience to understand them. Not many dog owners take time to understand that their pets have descended from wolves and despite being very different in shape, size and colour, they have retained about 85% of wolf behaviour patterns and have different needs and abilities to those of humans.

Research has shown that three times as many dogs are abandoned because they have behaviour problems than those that die from cancer.

Over the last 23 years that India's leading professional canine behaviourist – Shirin Merchant has worked with dogs in India, she has realised a growing need to educate and help dog owners understand the true cause of canine behaviour problems and the simple solutions that can turn correct the imbalance in the dog-owner relationship.

Through this – India's only course on canine behaviour, she hopes to educate other dog lovers so that they too may help dog owners and their pets and thus create a happy ending for many of today's dogs that are otherwise abandoned, face euthanasia or suffer harsh treatment at the hands of 'self-made' trainers and behaviourists.

If you love dogs or if your passion is to help canines suffering from behaviour problems, this course is for you.



CURRICULUM

UNIT 1

INTRODUCTION TO CANINE BEHAVIOUR

This part of the course details what canine behaviour is all about – the instructor will dispel myths surrounding the topic and give a brief history of how canines evolved, their ancestry and its impact on today's domesticated dog.

- The current situation of canine behaviour in India.
- Why there is a strong need for a canine behaviourist in today's society.
- The domestication of dogs, how the situation has changed in India in the last five years.
- Canine ownership – how the changing trends have created problems for man's best friend.

UNIT 2

HOW DOES A DOG LEARN?

This topic will include a detailed study of:

- Understanding the different ways in which a dog learns behaviour.
- Patterns of canine behaviour
- Operant and Classical conditioning and its impact on problem behaviours.
- Positive and negative reinforcement
- Why punishment does more harm than good.
- Learned helplessness
- The role the dog's environment and upbringing plays in its behaviour.

UNIT 3

DESTRUCTION PROBLEMS

The different reasons a dog will chew or destroy his home and detailed programmes to correct the behaviour. Some of the causes of destruction discussed will be:

- Attention seeking destruction
- Boredom destruction
- Separation Anxiety
- Insecurity
- Puppy chewing and destruction.

UNIT 4

ELIMINATION PROBLEMS

How to put right any toilet training problem, including

- Toilet training a puppy
- Re-training an adult dog
- Submissive urination
- Territorial urination
- Excitement urination

UNIT 5

BARKING PROBLEMS

The various reasons why dogs bark and the varied solutions to the problems will be probed in detail.

The different causes of barking that will be discussed include-

- Guard Dog barking
- Excitement barking
- Attention seeking barking
- Nervous barking
- Boredom barking
- Frustration-related vocalising

UNIT 6

FOOD PROBLEMS

- Stealing
- Fussy eating habits
- Burying food
- Coprophagia
- Begging
- PICA
- Scavenging



UNIT 7

STRESS AND RELATED PROBLEMS

Research shows that as with humans, many behavioural problems in dogs are stress-related. The course will involve an in-depth study of stress in dogs and how to alleviate it. This topic will also include the fascinating way in which we can learn to speak canine language. Learn how dogs show stress and what you can do to help.

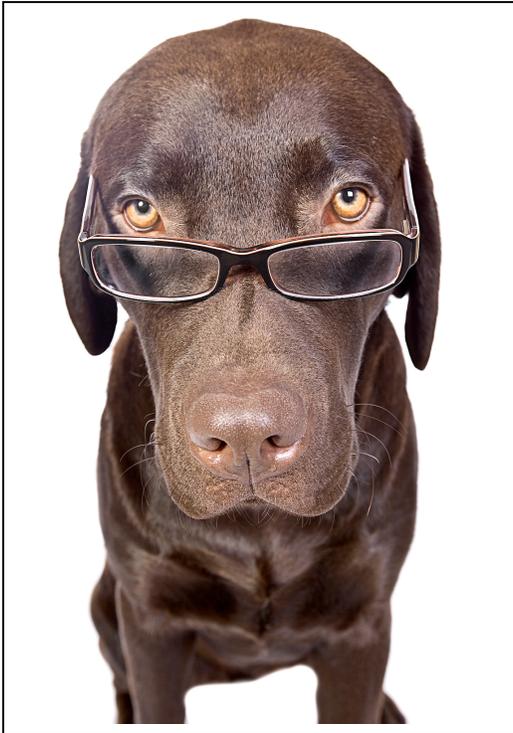
This topic will include:

- The symptoms of stress
- Measuring the levels of stress in a dog.
- The physiological aspect of stress.
- Displacement behaviours
- Stereotype behaviours
- Obsessive compulsive behaviours
- Calming signals and how to use them to reduce stress in a dog
- Reading canine body language and learning how to communicate correctly with any dog.
- Correcting our body posture when interacting with a dog.

UNIT 8

FEARS AND PHOBIAS

- Dealing with the nervous temperament dog. It will take a look at why certain dogs end up being scared of people, inanimate objects or even other dogs.
- Understanding fear – how it starts, ways of measuring fear levels in a dog, the physiological aspect, the side effects, and more.
- Fear of vets, travelling in a car, people or other dogs.
- Detailed programmes to correct the behaviours



UNIT 9

THE ART OF BEHAVIOUR COUNSELLING

This Unit examines professional approaches to solving behavioural problems in dogs, techniques and assessment.

- The student will learn to use a variety of methods to correct problems behaviours.
- How to format a programme for a problem dog.
- How to read a dog's behaviour during a consultation
- How to conduct a behaviour consultation
- How to deal with the owner during a consult
- Follow up advice with owners
- Writing a case history
- Involving the vet in putting right a behaviour problem.

UNIT 10

THE HUMAN-CANINE BOND

- How to deal with different kinds of dog owners.
 - The different attitudes people have towards companion animals.
- A deep look at pack structure in dogs and how it affects the family.
 - Preventing behaviour problems from occurring.
 - Gain an understanding of the relationship between dog and owner and how an unbalanced relationship can cause problems.

TRAINING FACULTY

The course will be conducted by India's pioneering canine behaviourist and trainer – Shirin Merchant

Since 1995, she has helped dog owners in England, India and Sri Lanka with behaviour and training problems ranging from dominance, housetraining, chewing, aggression, destruction to boredom and compulsive behaviours. She has trained over three thousand dogs with breeds ranging from the feisty Pomeranian to the shy Samoyed. She is currently renowned as one of the top dog trainers in the world (quoted by John Rogerson – Northern Centre for Animal Behaviour).

In 2013, Shirin gained her accreditation to the prestigious Kennel Club of England Accreditation Scheme for Trainers and became a fully accredited member of the KCAI (Kennel Club of England) holding an accreditation in Companion Dog Training and Behavioural Training at the advanced level. She is the only person outside of Europe to have achieved this distinct honour and is one of nine people in the world to have the accreditation in Behavioural Training.

Shirin was awarded the KCAI International Commendation for Trainer of the Year at a ceremony at Cruft's Dog Show in England in 2014.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The comprehensive Canine Behaviour Course will be conducted in 2 stages.

MODULE 1 (A period of 2 weeks)

This stage will include the introduction to the course and theory classes. Students will be expected to attend the 12 day Behaviour course in Dadar, Mumbai. 9 am to 1:30 pm everyday

The stage will include theory classes.

Shirin merchant will personally demonstrate, teach, guide and supervise the students. Students will be awarded a certificate on completion of this stage.

MODULE2 (Study and practice) (A period of 10 days)

In this stage, the student will be required to go through study material at home.

Daily study material will be provided for a period of 10 days.

Students will be provided online study material in the form of books (will need to be purchased separately), videos and articles.

Students will be sent cases to work on, write out programmes, canine behaviour videos to analyse and articles to read.

The student will be given a further 2 weeks to submit the assignments.

Students will be expected to invest around 48-56 hours of study in this module.

Requirements - a computer and an internet connection.

DURATION AND DATES

JULY 26th 2021 to AUGUST 18th 2021

1st MODULE

The **1st module** of in person learning will be held from **JULY 26th to 7th AUGUST 2021** over a period of 12 days from 9 am to 1:30 pm daily from (excluding Sunday)

VENUE - Dadar, Mumbai

Students are strictly expected to attend daily.

2nd MODULE

The **2nd Module** of home study will be conducted **from 9th August to 18th August 2021**.

This module can be studied at home, at any time convenient to the student. You do not need to be in Mumbai for this module. All teaching in this module will be done online.

APPLICATION

The comprehensive course is ideal for anyone keen on furthering their knowledge of canine behaviour – either to expand their own canine communication skills or as the commencement of a whole new career. Students will understand why dogs behave the way they do and how to change a dog's behaviour without resorting to punishment. The detailed course will consist only of theory and is the foundation course for people interested in pursuing a career as canine trainers and behaviour counsellors.

Only students who have been actively training dogs for at least 6 months can apply for the course.

The course will be conducted only in English and students are required to have a good understanding of the language. Applicant must be over 18 years of age. This course is only for those people who genuinely want to learn more about dogs. Only those seriously interested should apply.

FEES AND MODE OF PAYMENT FOR THE COURSE

The fees for this course are Rs. 85000/- (plus 18% G.S.T) Total- Rs. 1,00,300/-

Payment can be made in the form of cash or NEFT.

All payments to be made in full before the commencement of the course. Part payments / post dated cheques will not be accepted.

Registration charges Rs. 10000/- (non-refundable and non-transferable to another course) to be sent along with the admission form (available on request). Registration amount will be adjusted against final payment.

Students must confirm participation on the course by 15th JULY 2021.

CERTIFICATION

Upon successful completion of the first module, students will receive a certificate of successful completion.

**For more details, or the application form for the course please E-mail-
k9cancare@hotmail.com**