



**ADVANCED PROFESSIONAL  
CANINE TRAINER COURSE  
LEVEL 2  
MUMBAI 2020**

The Advanced Professional Canine Trainer Course picks up where the Basic Foundation Course leaves off. Whilst the foundation course leaves you with the basic skills required to start working as a canine trainer, the advanced course ensures you hone the knowledge, put it to practical use and build on it to become an expert certified dog trainer.

The intensive course includes an increased level of theory, practical handling, assessments, field and research work to ensure you work on the skills required to become an extraordinary trainer and stand out from the rest of the crowd.

The Level 2 course can be done concurrently with the Foundation course or as a standalone course to enhance your current dog training skills.

Upon successful completion of the course, the students get certified as professional trainers.

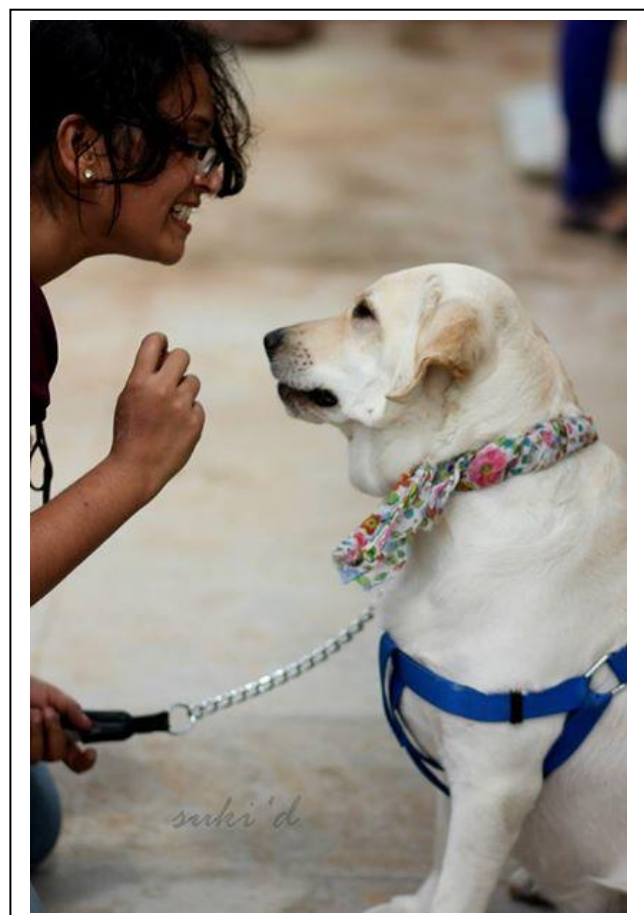
**CURRICULUM**

The course will contain the entire curriculum of the Foundation Professional Canine Trainer Course with added assessments, practical handling and research in every unit.

**EVOLUTION AND DOMESTICATION OF DOGS**

The course will cover:

- A look at the evolution of dog training methods through the ages.
- An interesting aspect on what methods were used to train dogs, why they changed over time, how the old, harsh methods have given way to the newer reward based methods prevalent today.
- An understanding of canine ethology
- The process of domestication and its effect on dog training through the ages.
- Understanding canine cognition and its applications in dog training and behaviour.



## LEARNING THEORY

This unit will take an in-depth look at the different methods available to train as well as the learning principles behind the training. It will include detailed theory and practical sessions.

### Different methods of teaching an animal

The course will discuss the various training methods in use today to train dogs and why different methods work with different dogs. Handling and training of aggressive and timid dogs will be discussed. Clicker training, whistle training and the pros and cons of other training tools will be discussed. Common myths about dog training will be discussed.

### Rewards and Punishers

The course will cover this extensive topic and discuss the use of lures, bribes, fixed and random rewards, positive and negative reinforcement and their application in training.

### Reinforcers

An in-depth understanding of positive and negative Reinforcers will be studied.

## COMPANION DOG TRAINING

This unit will cover

- Basic commands learned on the Level one course will be honed.
- Basic problem solving skills
- Teaching manners to a companion dog
- True to Life training situations
- Advancing the training to outdoor work

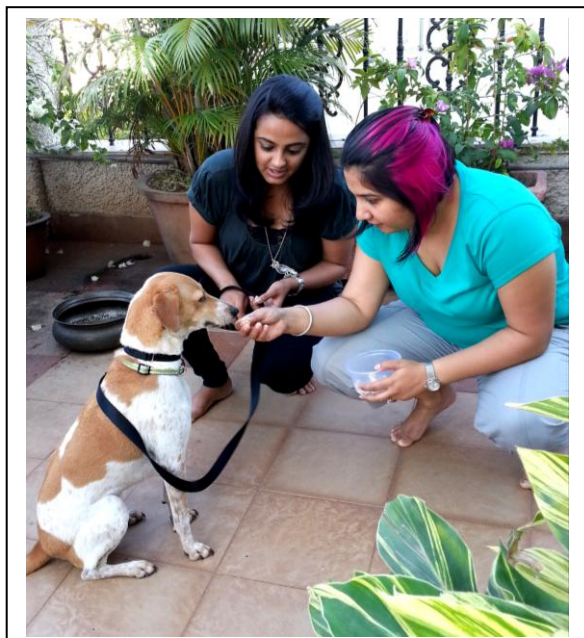
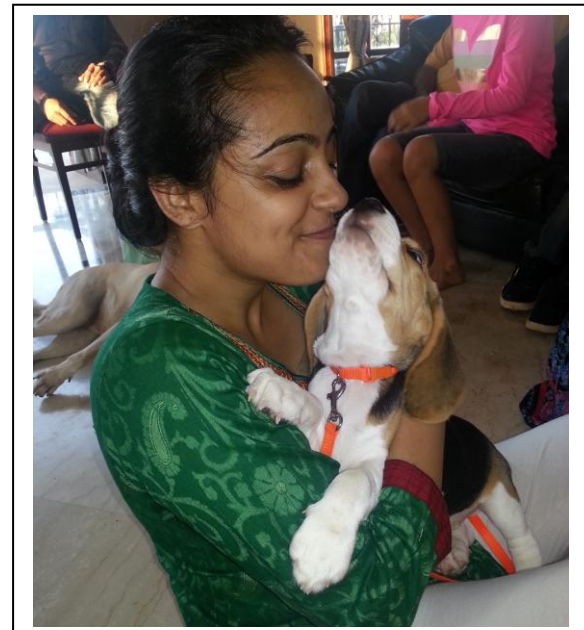
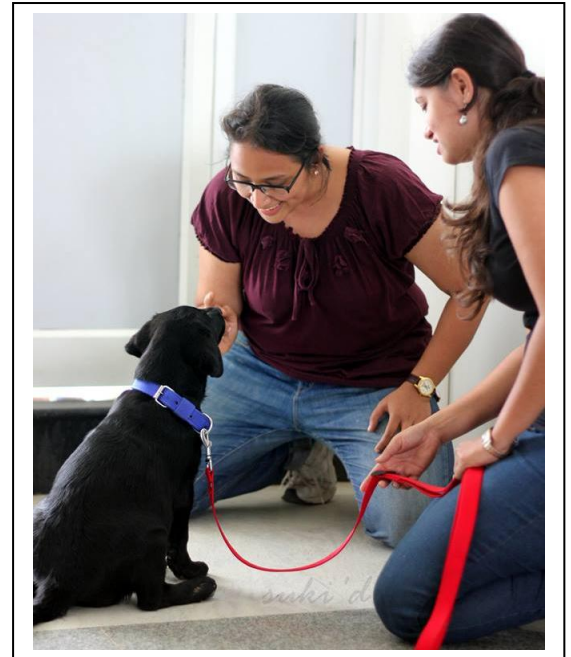
## PACK STRUCTURE AND THE DOMINANCE THEORY

- This unit will help the student understand the dynamics of a dog pack and will take a look at the debate on the dominance theory and the alpha dog theory- does it really exist?
- How does the family unit work for the companion dog and what rules do pet parents need to follow to ensure their dog is a happy well behaved member of their family?

## CANINE COMMUNICATION

The students will learn the fascinating language that dogs speak and how to communicate with dogs. This will teach them how to communicate with another species without the use of force and how to recognise the signs of stress in a dog.

Students will need to study, evaluate and research canine body language in real life situations.





## DOG BREEDS

- What role does a dog's breed play in training and behavior work?
- Why it is important for a trainer to understand the origins of dog breeds?
- How can we work with a dog's breed in training rather than forcing it to conform to one set of rules?
- What role does a dog's breed play in mental stimulation and the games we play with dogs?
- How to understand a breed and the genetics behind it

## PET DOG OBEDIENCE

Students will learn how to train basic commands using a variety of methods.

Commands will include skills crucial for pet dogs-

- Sit, down, stay, leash walking, recall, retrieve, polite greetings, 'No' command, food refusal.
- Practise of the commands in different situations will be carried out.
- Trouble shooting the commands and understanding the solutions.
- Why it is necessary to use different training methods on different dogs.

## CANINE BEHAVIOUR

A look at general canine behaviour issues seen in companion dogs. Topics will be discussed briefly To give students an understanding of why dogs behave the way they do.

Topics included in this section will be-

- Toileting problems
- Adopting a senior dog
- Begging at the dinner table



- Boredom in dogs
- Embarrassing things that dogs do
- Fussy eating dogs
- Helping children understand the death of a dog
- Separation anxiety
- Barking in dogs
- Hyperactive dog
- Introducing 2 dogs
- Canine body language
- Pampered paws
- Saying hello to a dog-how to avoid getting bitten
- Stealing food
- Dog Stress at the vet
- Wagging tail – what does it mean
- Teenage trouble in dogs
- Fearful dogs
- When a dog rules the house
- Why dogs do they things they do

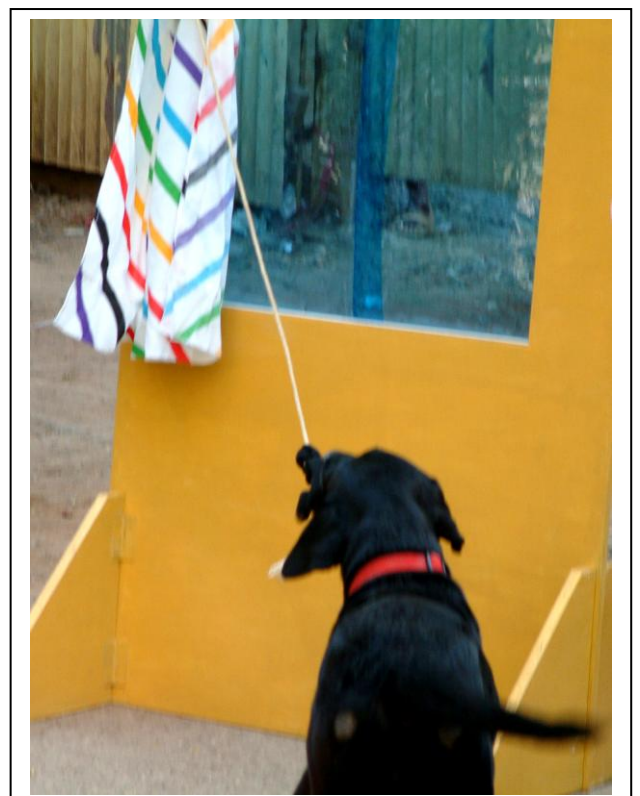
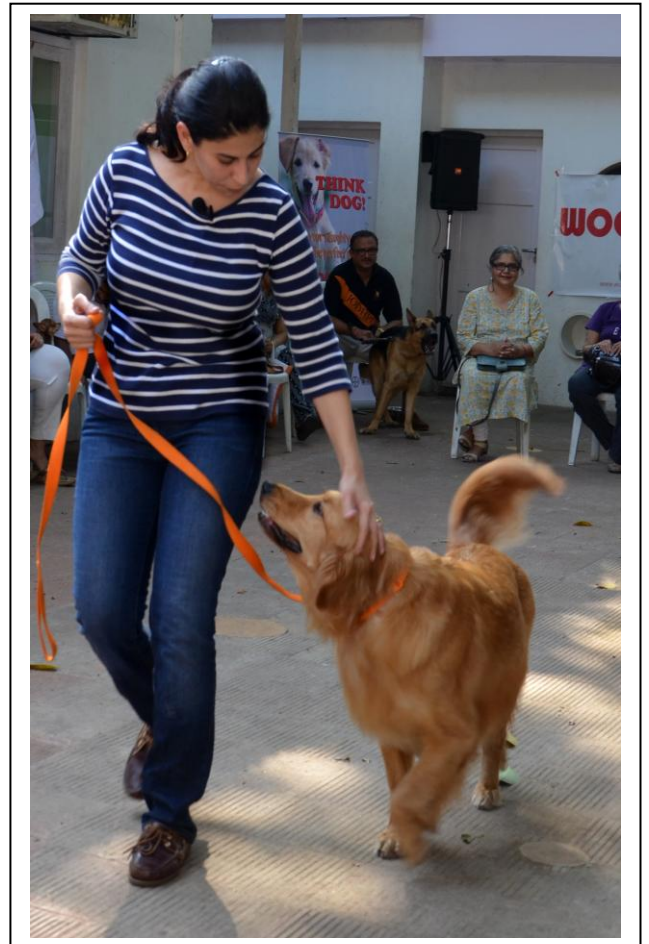
Students will learn about different issues that pet parents face and how to address those issues.

### CANINE HEALTH

How can we tell when a dog is healthy and when a dog maybe in pain or ill? Knowing more about what defines a healthy dog can help us treat a dog in time.

Topics covered will include-

- Acupuncture in dogs
- Why human medicine is harmful to dogs
- Allergies to dogs
- Canine CPR
- Cataracts in dogs
- Distemper
- Exercising your dog
- Obesity in dogs
- Human foods that are harmful to dogs
- Heat stroke in dogs
- Hip dysplasia
- Homeopathy for dogs
- Human food safe for dogs
- Kennel Cough
- Lumps and Bumps in dogs- is it cancer?
- Monsoon Care
- Natural remedies for fleas and ticks
- Poisonous items for dogs
- Preventing dental disease
- Probiotics for dogs
- Rabid dogs
- Sunburn in dogs
- Cancer in dogs
- Ticks and fleas in dogs



- Neutering in dogs
- Zoonotic diseases

This unit will involve a talk from a veterinarian on how to carry out canine CPR and other first aid.

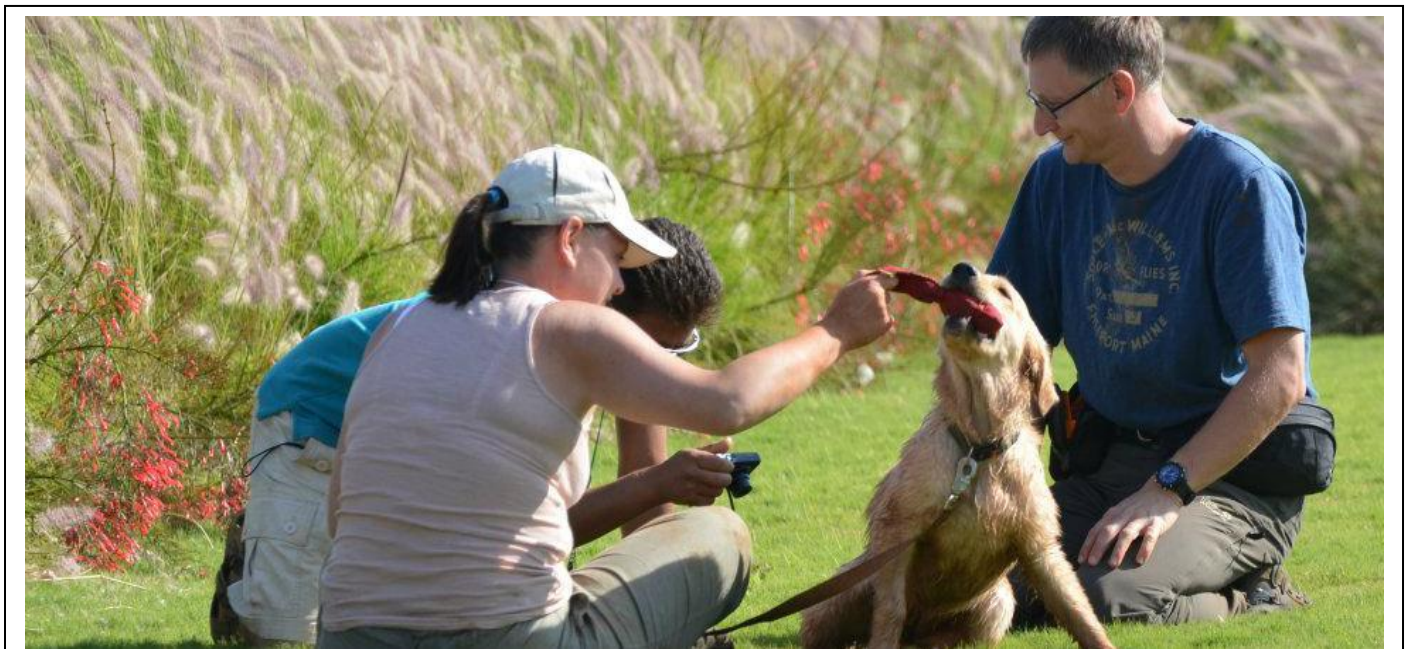
## CANINE NUTRITION

- A detailed look at nutrition in dogs will be discussed.
- What role does a breeder play in the choice of food a puppy will have?
- The debate in vegetarian and non-vegetarian food for dogs
- How to feed a dog a balanced diet
- The debate between home cooked food and packaged dog food
- Can a dog eat the same food every day?
- Does diet play a role in dog behaviour?
- What treats can you use for training?
- How to prepare healthy homemade treats for dogs.

## PUPPY UPBRINGING AND TRAINING

This topic will include:

- How to select the perfect puppy based on owner needs and situation
- The developmental stages in a dog, from the pre-natal period to adult and how it affects training.
- How to select and bring up a puppy for specialised training tasks.
- Puppy socialising- the right and wrong way to go about it.
- Dog to human socialising
- Dog to dog socialising
- The impact the breeder has on the puppy's future training and temperament
- How to play games with a puppy
- How to introduce the puppy to a leash
- Using the method of imprinting to teach a puppy recall
- The impact of genetic traits on the puppy's development
- Toilet training
- Handling puppy mouthing
- Chewing and destruction- simple ways to control it



- The teething phase
- Handling the teenage dog and the issues that pet parents face at this time
- Crate training- is it really cruel? How to train a puppy to enjoy being crated
- Grooming and handling of puppies



## DOG PLAY, GAMES AND TOYS

This unit will take a look at:

- The various games to play with a dog
- Different ways to train a dog to retrieve
- How to play with a dog
- Safe games to play and games that should be avoided
- Why rough play does more harm than good
- Breed specific play and toys
- The different toys on the market
- Homemade dog toys
- Tug play
- Scenting games
- A look at the various interactive dog games on the market
- Why mental stimulation is important exercise for dogs.

## LEASH WALKING

This unit will include more practical handling in public situations.

- A look at the various training tools for leash walking available on the international market today – what works and what doesn't
- Off leash walking
- Understanding why dogs pull on the leash
- Different methods of teaching a dog to walk on a slack leash

## DOG TRAINING- THE HUMAN ANGLE

Most people think dog training is all about dogs. But as a professional trainer, you will need to work closely with the pet parents and other people involved with dogs.

On this course you will learn:

- How to motivate pet parents to practise their training
- How to work with difficult clients
- Attitudes to companion animals and working with them
- How to make training sessions fun
- How to handle difficult pet parents
- Communicate better with humans
- Understand human behaviour
- How to identify client goals
- Professional etiquette and improving the client-dog relationship.

## SETTING UP A DOG TRAINING BUSINESS

- How to become a successful dog trainer
- Tackling the financial aspect
- Publicity and marketing in a competitive environment
- Setting up your own business
- Liaising professionally with other pet businesses
- Social media marketing
- Planning your training sessions

- Preparing a contract
- Presenting yourself professionally- creating a brand

### YOUR TEACHER...

'Canines Can Care' is the only canine organisation of its kind in India. The organisation has pioneered not only the concept of Assistance Dogs in the country, but also the concept of Search and Rescue Dogs. In fact, the 'Canines Can Care' search dog team was the only one representing India in the aftermath of the Gujarat earthquake.

Besides the above, "Canines Can Care" also conducts dog training courses for pet owners, offers behavioural advice for problem dogs, holds agility training sessions, runs courses on canine behaviour and is involved in pioneering many more dog related activities all over the country.

The founder of "Canines Can Care" – Shirin Merchant, will conduct the course.

She has been working in the field of canine behaviour and training from 1995 in India and is responsible for pioneering canine behaviour counselling, canine courses and canine educational events across India.

She is the only person in Asia to have an international accreditation from the Kennel Club of England's, Accredited Instructor scheme – the KCAI in Companion Animal training and in Behavioural Training. **The behavioural training accreditation makes her one of 9 people in the world who have achieved it.**

In 2015, Shirin was awarded the International Commendation for Trainer of the Year award by the Kennel Club of England's KCAI scheme at the Cruft's Dog Show in England.

In 2016, Shirin was invited to lecture at the Association of Professional Pet Dog Trainers (APDT) conference in Las Vegas. She is the first Indian to have been invited by this prestigious body to present at the conference.

In 2017, Shirin was invited to present at TEDx Gitam University.

In 2018, Shirin was awarded The First Ladies award and felicitated for being a pioneer in her field by The President of India at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Over the past 23 years, Shirin Merchant has trained over two thousand dogs with breeds ranging from the feisty Pomeranian to the shy Samoyed. She is in great demand with most of India's dog owners with problems regarding their pets. The problems have ranged from dominance, housetraining, chewing, aggression and destruction to boredom and compulsive behaviours.

All through the years, Shirin has worked hard to change the concept of dog training in India.



### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will include intensive hands on learning for a period of 10 days from 10 am to 1:30 pm every day.

The stage will include theory classes, field trips and practical training experience with dogs. Shirin Merchant will personally demonstrate, teach, guide and supervise the students as they learn practical handling skills.

The course will also include 2-3 hours of compulsory homework every day.

The student will be required to go through study material at home and do research to submit during the course. Time lines for submission will have to be adhered to.

## CERTIFICATION

Upon successful completion of the course, and timely submission of all assignments and assessments, students will graduate as **CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL TRAINERS**.

## DURATION AND DATES

### MUMBAI COURSE

**16<sup>th</sup> March to 26<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

The course will be conducted in Parsi Colony, Dadar, Mumbai.

## APPLICATION

This course is essential for anyone who is interested in furthering their career as a dog trainer.

Students must complete the Professional Foundation Canine Trainer Course- LEVEL 1 to be able to qualify for this course.

The course will be conducted only in English and students are required to have a good understanding of the language.

The course will include intensive hands-on work with dogs. Students can either bring their own dogs or learn on dogs provided by the organisation.

Only those seriously interested should apply.



## FEES AND MODE OF PAYMENT

The fees for the 5 week course are Rs. 100,000/- (plus 18% G.S.T) Total- Rs. 118000/-

For students who choose to do the LEVEL 1 and LEVEL 2 courses concurrently, the fees for both the courses

LEVEL 1- Rs. 125000/- (exclusive of 18% GST)

and

LEVEL 2 – Rs. 100000/- (exclusive of 18% GST)

will be discounted to Rs. 200,000/- (exclusive of 18% GST)

Payment can be made in the form of cash / cheque / DD/bank transfer in the name of 'CANINES CAN CARE'. All payments to be made in full before the commencement of the 1<sup>st</sup> module. Part payments / post dated cheques will not be accepted.

Registration charges Rs. 10,000/- (non-refundable and non-transferable) to be sent along with the admission form (available on request). Registration amount will be adjusted against final payment.

Since we have limited seats on the course, students are advised to book their places in advance.

**Last date to register for the LEVEL 2 course– 1st March 2020**



## **FAQS**

### **Answers to commonly asked questions...**

#### **Is a career in dog training a viable one?**

Yes, many of our students around the world are pursuing lucrative careers in dog training and behaviour. Working with dogs can be fun and rewarding, especially for people who love dogs.

#### **I am not a resident of Mumbai. Where can I stay in Mumbai, do you help with accommodation?**

The course is held in Dadar- a centrally located place in Mumbai. We can make suggestions based on your budget, though if you have family or friends, we advice staying with them. There are plenty of accommodation options you can find online. Do look up [www.airbnb.com](http://www.airbnb.com) as well for some budget friendly places to stay. You do not need to stay in Dadar. You can stay anywhere in Mumbai and travel to the venue. Public transport in Mumbai is easily available and reasonably priced.

#### **Do I have to be in Mumbai for a period of 10 days?**

Yes, you do need to be physically present for this course.

#### **Will Shirin Merchant introduce us to other people related to this field after the completion of our course?**

Yes, on completion of this course, the student gets added to the wide network of Canines Can Care trainers and other professionals.

#### **On completion of the course, do you guarantee training jobs for me?**

We do not guarantee training jobs to students on completion of the course. We do teach students how to handle the business aspect of the course and how to promote and market themselves on the course. Students will be required to find their own work on completion of the course.

#### **Can I train dogs as a profession on completion of this course?**

Yes, in completion of this course, the student will have the required knowledge to pursue dog training as a career.



#### **Can I work with Shirin Merchant and learn under her?**

Shirin Merchant does not have the facility to take on interns at this point. There are plans underway to help students with mentoring later in 2020.

#### **How do I go about the registration and payment?**

To register for the course please send an email to [k9cancare@hotmail.com](mailto:k9cancare@hotmail.com) requesting for the application form.

#### **How late can I register for a course?**

We encourage you to register as soon as possible so as to avoid disappointment. We take in limited number of students per course on a first come first serve basis.

**What is the difference in the certification of the Level 1 and Level 2 courses?**

On completion of the Level 1 Foundation Canine Trainer Course, the students will get a certificate of successful completion.

On completion of Level 2- Advanced Professional Canine Trainer Course the students get a certificate stating they are certified trainers from our organisation Canines Can Care.

**Will the Level 1 certificate qualify me as a certified trainer?**

The Level 1 certificate is only an attendance and participation certificate. To get the certification of professional trainer, the student will need to complete the Level 2 course.

**Can I do Level 1 and Level 2 together?**

Yes, it is advisable to do both the courses together to maximise the learning on the Level 1 course.

**Can I do the Level 2 course a few months to a year after completing the basic trainer course?**

Yes the Level 2 course can be done as a refresher course to update your knowledge, brush up on your handling skills, grow as a trainer and to get a coveted certification in this field.

If you have any further questions, we will be happy to answer them. Please do contact us at the details given below.

**CONTACT US...**

**For more details, or the application form for the course contact:**

**Shirin Merchant**

**E-mail- [k9cancare@hotmail.com](mailto:k9cancare@hotmail.com)**