

## **Canine Foundations' Training Academy – Hybrid Program**

The Canine Foundations' Training Academy (CFTA) is more than a course, it is a comprehensive, science-driven program that prepares aspiring and developing trainers to step confidently into the profession of dog training and behaviour consulting. Rooted in evidence-based practice and humane methodology, the Academy integrates academic rigor with practical application, equipping students with both the knowledge and the professional skills required to thrive in this rapidly evolving field.

At its core, the Academy is built on three pillars: solid theoretical grounding, intensive applied practice, and structured mentorship during supervised client hours. Together, these elements create a learning experience that balances academic depth with the realities of day-to-day professional training. Students graduate not only with technical skills in canine behaviour and learning, but with the ability to counsel clients, manage cases, and conduct themselves with the ethical standards expected of modern professionals.

### **A Science-Based Foundation - Module 1**

Module 1 provides students with a broad and rigorous understanding of the scientific principles that underpin all effective training. Topics include learning theory, applied behaviour analysis, canine ethology, animal welfare and husbandry, professional ethics, communication, instructional design, customer relations, record keeping, and the unique needs of sport and working dogs. The goal is not only to teach the science of behaviour, but to ensure students can critically evaluate methods, apply them appropriately, and communicate their reasoning to clients with clarity and confidence.

### **Practical Application in Real Time - Module 2**

In Module 2, students move from theory to practice. Through six months of live, interactive classes, participants learn how to teach effectively, manage the dynamics of group and private sessions, and refine their instructional skills. Supervised Instructional Skills workshops and Real Class Practicals replicate real-world challenges, while Trick Training Theory & Practical sharpens timing, creativity, and engagement. Every student is paired with a Mentor Consultant who provides direct feedback, ensuring that each learner develops not only technical proficiency, but also the professional presence and adaptability to lead classes, support clients, and troubleshoot complex training scenarios.

### **Structured Experience Hours - Module 3**

Module 3 offers students the opportunity to progress towards gaining the 300 hands-on training hours required by the Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers (CCPDT). CFTA provides structured oversight to assist students in accumulating their hours: students work through a virtual platform to teach client/dog teams, have access to a

Mentor Consultant for case support, submit recorded sessions for evaluation, and receive feedback from their mentor. Client evaluations add another layer of accountability, while a final multiple-choice exam reinforces knowledge in session management, client relations, program development, problem-solving, and customer service. This module is optional, but invaluable for those aiming to achieve CCPDT certification.

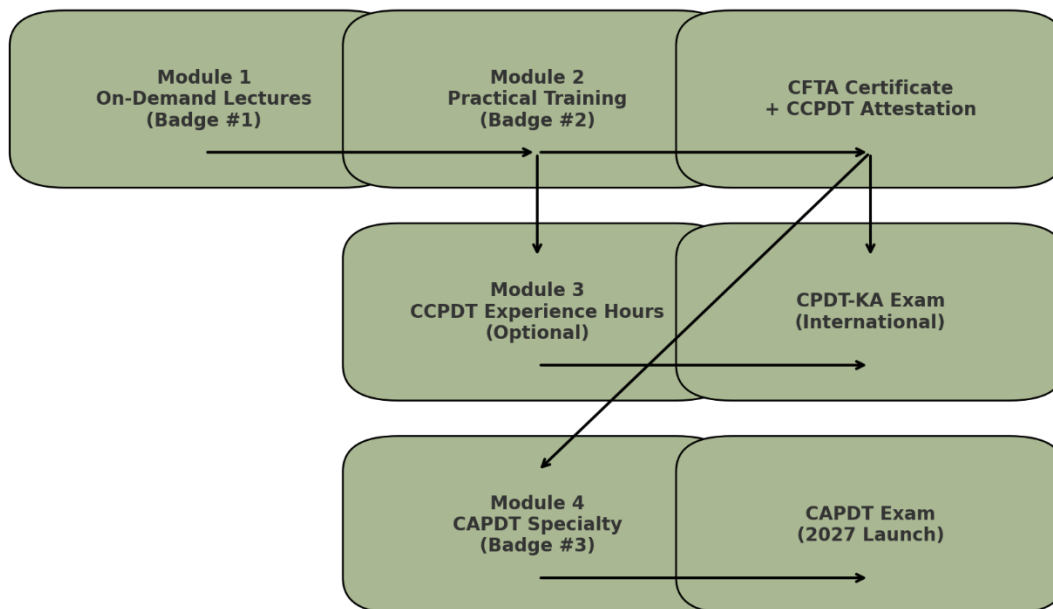
### **Pathways to Certification**

The Academy is recognized as a direct pathway to professional certification. Graduates are prepared to apply for the Certified Professional Dog Trainer – Knowledge Assessed (CPDT-KA) exam through CCPDT, an internationally recognized credential. As Canada continues to formalize national professional standards, Canine Foundations programs align with the evolving educational framework developed by the Canadian Association of Professional Dog Trainers (CAPDT), ensuring graduates are well positioned within both Canadian and international professional landscapes.

### **Credential and Recognition**

Students who complete Modules 1 and 2 earn the Canine Foundations' Training Academy Certificate, issued through Georgian College. Graduates also receive an attestation from a CCPDT certificant, providing independent verification of their education when applying for professional certification exams. Module 3, while not required for the certificate, ensures that students leave the Academy with a strong head start toward meeting CCPDT's 300-hour experience requirement.

## CFTA Hybrid Academy Pathways



### Module 1 – On-Demand Lectures

**Recommended Tuition:** \$1,850.00 + Tax

#### Course Description

At the core of the Canine Foundations’ Training Academy is a deep commitment to the science and art of professional dog training. Module 1 – On-Demand Lectures serves as the intellectual cornerstone of the program, offering students a rigorous yet accessible education in canine behaviour, learning, and professional practice.

This module is designed to bridge academic theory with real-world application. Through an extensive series of recorded lectures, recommended readings, and structured assignments, students develop fluency in both the science of behaviour change and the practical realities of working with clients and dogs. Topics span from the fundamentals of learning theory and applied behavior analysis to the subtleties of canine ethology, communication, and welfare. Students will also explore the ethical frameworks guiding humane practice, including the Hierarchy of Behavior Change Procedures and professional standards recognized by CCPDT, IAABC, and CAPDT.

Beyond core science, Module 1 delves into areas that reflect the complexity of today’s dog training profession. Lectures and assignments introduce students to record keeping and case documentation, client counseling skills, and customer service practices that foster trust and long-term relationships. Special sessions on sport and working dogs provide

insight into the unique needs of performance and service animals, preparing students to adapt their knowledge across diverse training contexts.

Learning is entirely self-paced, giving students flexibility to engage with material on their own schedule, while four optional evening Q&A sessions each semester provide live opportunities to discuss content with Academy faculty and connect with peers.

By the end of Module 1, students will have built a comprehensive theoretical framework that equips them not only to train dogs, but to counsel, communicate, and lead as professionals in a field that demands equal parts science, ethics, and empathy.

- **Delivery:** Recorded lectures, curated readings, and written/video homework assignments
- **Duration:** Open enrollment; available Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters, student can choose to complete the modules within 4, 8, or 12 months
- **Support:** Access to online learning platform and four optional Q&A evenings per semester
- **Assessment:** Homework assignments, quizzes, and a final multiple-choice exam
- **Credential:** Badge #1, the first step toward the Canine Foundations' Training Academy Certificate

### Admission Requirements

- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Access to a computer, webcam, and stable internet connection
- No prior education or dog training experience required

### Flexible Virtual Enrolment Options

Learn Anywhere, on your schedule. Canine Foundations Training Academy offers **multiple virtual intakes each year** for Module One, allowing students to begin when it best suits their schedule. Whether you're an aspiring dog trainer, shelter professional, or animal-care specialist looking to advance your skills, Module One gives you the flexibility to learn at your own pace, without putting life on hold.

Delivered entirely online, this foundational course combines self-paced study with live virtual support and mentorship from Canine Foundations' experienced instructors

### Choose Your Start Date

Begin when it fits your schedule. Each intake runs approximately four months, with the flexibility to extend your studies as needed:

- **Summer 2026:** May 4 – August 30, 2026

- **Fall / Winter 2026–2027:** September 1, 2026 – January 10, 2027
- **Winter / Spring 2027:** January 5 – April 25, 2027
- **Summer 2027:** May 3 – August 29, 2027
- **Fall / Winter 2027–2028:** September 1, 2027 – January 9, 2028

## **Pace That Fits Your Life**

Module One is designed for real-world schedules. You decide how quickly to move through the material and your progress stays with you:

- Finish in as little as **4 months**
- Take a steady approach over **8 months**
- Need more time? You can extend your studies for **up to two additional semesters** (maximum of 12 months total)

## **A Supportive Online Learning Experience**

Each Module One intake blends flexible, self-paced study with live mentorship and interactive learning opportunities. Students gain access to structured lectures, practical assignments, and real-world applications designed to build a strong foundation in canine behaviour and training science.

Each intake includes:

- **Virtual Orientation** to help you get started
- **Four Live Monthly Drop-In Sessions** with our instructional team
- **17 On-Demand Lecture Classes** (approximately 6-7 hours each — 110 total hours of recorded content)
- **4 Quizzes** to help reinforce key concepts
- **4 Homework Assignments** designed to apply theory to practice (approximately 24 hours total)
- **Recommended Reading** (approximately 10–12 hours total)
- **One Final Written Exam** completed through Blackboard

**Total estimated time commitment:** approximately **140 hours** over four months, or **8 to 10 hours per week**, including lectures, assignments, readings, and live sessions.

All sessions and lectures are available online and on-demand, allowing students to learn, review, and progress at their own pace from anywhere in the world.

## **On-Demand Lecture Classes**

Module One includes 17 on-demand lecture classes, each approximately six to seven hours in length, for a total of 110 hours of recorded learning (about 6.5 hours per week).

These lectures provide the academic foundation needed for success in the practical modules that follow.

Every class combines scientifically grounded instruction, real-world examples, and applicable training strategies, allowing students to build both theoretical understanding and practical implementation in modern canine behaviour and training.

### **Course Topics Include:**

- Ethology & Development
- Canine Communication & Breeds
- Canine Emergency First Aid
- Canine Nutrition & Husbandry
- Learning Theory (Part 1 & Part 2)
- Advanced Training Techniques
- Ethical Training & Equipment (Part 1 & Part 2)
- Customer Relations & Safety Protocols
- Record Keeping & Group Class Management
- Training Plan Development & Techniques (Part 1 & Part 2)
- Canine Behaviour Challenges (Part 1 & Part 2)
- Service & Therapy Dog Preparation – Theory
- Sport & Working Dog Training – Theory

### **Homework & Applied Learning**

Homework in Module One is designed to help students translate theory into real-world skill. Each assignment reinforces key lecture concepts through observation, planning, and critical-thinking exercises that mirror the work of professional trainers.

Students will complete **four major homework assignments** throughout the module, along with short quizzes to assess understanding. Assignments vary in length depending on complexity, requiring **approximately 3–8 hours each**, for a **total average of 24 hours** of homework over the course of the program.

All assignments are completed independently and submitted through Blackboard. Each one is reviewed by an instructor, with personalized feedback to support continued growth and professional development.

### **Recommended Reading**

Module One includes a curated reading schedule designed to complement the on-demand lectures and homework assignments. These readings deepen understanding of learning

theory, training ethics, and professional practice, helping students connect scientific principles with real-world application.

Students are encouraged to follow the suggested reading plan at their own pace, typically completing **one to two chapters per week**. The full reading schedule represents approximately **10–12 hours of additional study time** over the course of the module.

### **Recommended Texts Include:**

- The Science and Technology of Dog Training by James O’Heare
- The Ethical Dog Trainer: A Practical Guide for Canine Professionals by Jim Barry

Although the readings are not graded, they are highly encouraged to enhance comprehension, reinforce lecture content, and prepare students for the advanced modules that follow.

### **Module 1 Learning Outcomes**

Module 1 establishes the scientific and theoretical foundation essential for competent, ethical dog training and behaviour consulting. Through coursework in learning theory, applied behaviour analysis, canine ethology, welfare, and professional communication, students gain the core knowledge required to understand behaviour, evaluate training methods, and think critically as emerging professionals.

Students will be able to:

- Define and explain core concepts of learning theory and applied behaviour analysis.
- Describe how reinforcement, punishment, extinction, and shaping influence behaviour.
- Identify canine stress signals, body language, and welfare needs.
- Recognize the impact of genetics, environment, and early development on behaviour.
- Evaluate training methods using evidence-based criteria.
- Compare modern humane training approaches with outdated or aversive methods.
- Apply ethical frameworks and welfare principles to training decisions.
- Interpret behaviour within context, including motivation, emotional state, and environmental factors.
- Demonstrate clear written communication and professional documentation skills.
- Produce accurate session notes and client-ready explanations of theoretical concepts.
- Apply foundational communication skills to support client understanding and engagement.

- Begin developing critical thinking skills for assessing training plans and behavioural concerns.

### **Module 1 – Evaluation Method – Assessment Breakdown**

- Assignments: 40%
- Quizzes: 20%
- Written Final Exam: 40%

### **Module 2 - Applied Instructional Skills (Live Webinars)**

**Recommended Tuition:** \$3,700.00 + Tax

#### **Course Description**

**Module 2 – Applied Instructional Skills** transforms the knowledge gained in Module One into applied skill. Over five months of live, interactive classes, students step into the role of professional trainers, developing the ability to teach dogs, coach clients, and manage the dynamic realities of real-world training environments.

Classes run as full-day sessions, held two Sundays per month, and are designed to replicate the pace and demands of professional practice. Students engage in intensive workshops that cover Instructional Skills 1–6, where they learn to deliver clear verbal and physical cues, demonstrate exercises effectively, tailor programs to client needs, and manage the flow of a training session. Through the Real Class Practicals (1–3), participants apply these skills in supervised mock class settings, gaining first-hand experience with group dynamics, class control, and troubleshooting common challenges. A dedicated module on Trick Training Theory & Practical provides additional opportunities to refine timing, creativity, and engagement techniques that strengthen the trainer-dog bond.

Each student is paired with a Mentor Consultant, offering continuity of feedback and individualized support throughout the module. This mentorship ensures that learners not only practice the mechanics of training, but also receive guidance on client relations, professional presentation, and problem-solving.

The assessment process reflects the Academy’s high standards, including homework assignments, quizzes, client evaluations, class practicals, and both written and practical examinations. Students finish the module with not only the technical proficiency to train, but also the confidence and adaptability to lead classes, consult with clients, and represent themselves as professionals in the field.

- **Delivery:** Live virtual classes (WebEx), interactive assignments, and mentor-guided feedback
- **Duration:** 5 months; Fall & Spring intakes; classes run every other Sunday, two full days of class per month, from 9:00AM to 5:00PM

- **Support:** Assigned Mentor Consultant + peer interaction in live sessions
- **Assessment:** Homework, quizzes, practicals, client evaluations, mid-term, final practical exam, and a final multiple-choice exam
- **Credential:** Badge #2, which together with Badge #1 earns the Canine Foundations' Training Academy Certificate

### Admission Requirements

- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Completion of **Module 1**, OR prior education from an approved equivalency program:
  - Companion Animal Sciences Institute (CASI)
  - Karen Pryor Academy (KPA)
  - The Academy for Dog Trainers (Jean Donaldson's)
  - Victoria Stilwell Academy (VSA)
  - APDT CPDT-KA Prep Course
  - E-Training for Dogs CPDT-KA Exam Study Course
  - IAABC programs
  - Fenzi Dog Sports Academy (FDSA)
  - PACCC/PCSA Canine Specialist Certificate
  - ...or equivalent program approved by the Director of CFTA
- Reliable internet, webcam, and access to dogs/clients for assignments

### Virtual Practical Training and Instructional Skills Development

Take your skills from theory to practice. **Module Two** builds on the foundations established in Module One, guiding students through advanced instructional techniques, real-world teaching practice, and professional mentorship with Canine Foundations Behaviour Consultants.

Delivered entirely **online**, this module blends interactive live sessions, individual teaching opportunities, and small-group coaching to help students gain confidence as trainers and communicators.

### Choose Your Start Date

Students can enroll in one of two virtual intakes each academic year:

- **Fall / Winter 2026–2027:** September 2, 2026 – January 31, 2027
- **Winter / Spring 2027:** January 4, 2027 – May 30, 2027

### Supportive Online Learning Experience

Module Two combines structured instruction with hands-on teaching practice, mentorship, and guided feedback to help students develop confidence in their presentation and coaching skills.

Each intake features:

- **Virtual Orientation** to prepare students for success
- **Six full-day Instructional Skills Practical Classes** (8 hours each) focused on cue development, teaching technique, and professional communication
- **Trick Training – Theory & Practical** (8 hours) to explore creative, motivational training methods
- **Three full-day Real Class Practicals** (8 hours each) where students teach live clients under supervision and receive collaborative group feedback
- **One Final Practical Exam**, evaluated one-on-one with a Behaviour Consultant

All sessions are delivered **live online** through WebEx or Microsoft Teams in small, interactive groups to ensure individualized mentorship and a supportive learning environment. Students are welcome to use their own dog during practical sessions, with guidance on pacing and welfare throughout.

**Total estimated time commitment:** approximately 80 hours of live virtual instruction, plus about 23 hours of homework, for a **total of around 100–105 hours per module, or 5 to 7 hours per week.**

### **Program Flexibility**

Each enrolment runs for approximately **five months** and is designed to accommodate working professionals and busy schedules. Students who need additional time to complete their assessments can discuss flexible continuation options with the Academy team.

### **Homework & Applied Learning**

Homework in Module Two is designed to help students strengthen their instructional and coaching skills through hands-on practice. Each assignment builds on the concepts introduced in class, focusing on cue development, refinement, and task analysis to reinforce effective communication and training precision.

Students will complete **four major homework assignments** throughout the module, each combining practical application with short video submissions and reflective analysis. Assignments vary in length depending on complexity, requiring **approximately 4–8 hours each**, for an **average of 23 hours of homework** over the course of the program.

All assignments are completed independently and submitted through Blackboard. Each one is reviewed by a Behaviour Consultant, with individualized feedback provided to help students continue to grow in both confidence and professional skill.

## **Module 2 Learning Outcomes**

Module 2 focuses on the development of applied training and instructional skills in real time. Students move from theory to practice, learning how to coach clients effectively, deliver structured lessons, apply humane handling techniques, and troubleshoot challenges during live training. This module prepares students to demonstrate professional communication, timing, engagement, and class management skills.

Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate effective mechanics for timing, reinforcement, and low-stress handling.
- Deliver clear verbal instruction to clients in both private and group settings.
- Develop lesson plans and class structures tailored to dog/handler teams.
- Troubleshoot common training challenges in real time.
- Implement ethical and humane training practices during live sessions.
- Adapt training techniques to suit different learning styles and temperament types.
- Manage group class dynamics, including safety, flow, engagement, and pacing.
- Provide constructive, supportive feedback to clients using professional communication strategies.
- Demonstrate competent leash handling, marker use, and reinforcement delivery in an instructional context.
- Use observational skills to identify handler mechanics that need adjustment and offer client-friendly corrections.
- Apply creative problem-solving during live training scenarios when dogs present unexpected behaviours.
- Maintain a professional, confident presence while leading classes or private sessions.

## **Module 2 – Evaluation Method**

- Practical Skills Evaluations: 30%
- Assignments & Lesson Plans: 25%
- Participation & Applied Workshops: 15%
- Quizzes: 10%
- Practical Exam (1-hour live client session with mentor consultant present): 20%

## **Module 3 – CCPDT Experience Hours (Optional Add-On)**

**Recommended Tuition:** \$3,950.00 + Tax

## Course Description

For many aspiring trainers, the most challenging step toward professional certification is completing the 300 hands-on training hours required to qualify for the Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers (CCPDT) exam. Module 3 – CCPDT Experience Hours bridges that gap, offering structured mentorship and accountability as students gain real-world experience working directly with dog-and-client teams.

Over the nine-month program (October to June), students complete 225 supervised experience hours, conducting virtual client sessions under the guidance of their assigned Mentor Consultant. This structure ensures that learners are not simply logging hours, but are actively developing professional competencies in case management, client communication, and applied training skills.

Students complete four rounds of client work, each spanning eight weeks, and participate in monthly live drop-in sessions for ongoing mentorship and skill development. They also submit six full-length recorded sessions (45–60 minutes each), with the top five scores counting toward their final grade. This approach allows students to apply early feedback, refine their professional practice, and demonstrate measurable progress throughout the module.

Client evaluations are gathered as part of each student's caseload, providing an external measure of progress and professionalism. To complement the practical work, students also complete a 1-hour live virtual practical exam, assessing the student's applied skills and readiness for independent professional work.

Module 3 is designed to run in tandem with Module 2 and professional practice. Students who already have some field-related experience will find the structure particularly supportive, as it provides a framework for turning that experience into verifiable training hours while receiving expert guidance.

- **Delivery:** Client placements (virtual) with Mentor Consultant supervision
- **Duration:** 9 months – October to June; Fall intake only (may be taken concurrently with Module 2)
- **Support:** Assigned Mentor Consultant (same mentor as Module 2 when taken together); structured feedback and evaluation
- **Assessment:** Session recordings (60%), client evaluations (25%), practical exam (15%); Pass/Fail (≥80% required to pass)
- **Credential:** No badge; optional add-on to support CCPDT readiness

## Admission Requirements

- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Completion of **Module 1**, OR approved equivalency program (same list as Module 2)
- Access to client/dog pairs for training sessions
- While not required, students are **strongly encouraged** to have up to **75 hours of field-related experience** (e.g., volunteering in shelters, assisting classes, grooming, kennel work, etc.). These hours count toward the **total 300 CCPDT experience hours**, with the remaining 225 covered by the Academy.

### Advanced Practicals & Client Casework

Take your skills to the professional level. **Module Three** focuses on real-world application through live client coaching, case management, and advanced obedience training practice under the mentorship of Canine Foundations' Behaviour Consultants.

Delivered entirely **online**, students gain hands-on experience through weekly virtual client sessions, live mentor feedback, and guided group discussions designed to refine communication and training skills.

### Program Schedule

Module Three runs across **four instructional rounds**, each eight weeks long, with a short break between terms:

- **Round One:** October 11 – December 12, 2026 (*Winter Break: Dec 20 – Jan 2*)
- **Round Two:** January 3 – February 27, 2027
- **Round Three:** March 21 – May 15, 2027 (*March Break: Mar 14 – 20*)
- **Round Four:** May 16 – June 26, 2027

Students complete **32 weeks (224 hours)** of guided practical training, followed by a **final Practical Exam** for a total of **225 hours** of professional-level experience.

Each intake includes:

- **Virtual Orientation** to prepare students for success
- **Four Instructional Rounds**, each eight weeks in duration, combining case management and client training (32 weeks total)
- **Weekly Virtual Client Sessions** to gain CCPDT hands-on experience hours
- **Mentorship** with a Canine Foundations Behaviour Consultant
- **Eight Live, Virtual, Drop-In Sessions** for continued support and collaboration
- **Three Major Homework Assignments** (approximately 33 hours total) designed to reinforce advanced training, proofing, and curriculum design skills
- **Final Practical Exam evaluated** one-on-one with a Behaviour Consultant

All sessions are conducted live online, with continuous mentorship and feedback available throughout your training journey.

**Total estimated time commitment:** approximately **260 hours** over 32 weeks, including 225 hours of live practical training of a dog and human pair, plus 33 hours of homework, averaging **8–9 hours per week** of professional-level applied study.

### Homework & Applied Learning

Homework in Module Three is designed to help students refine their professional training and program-development skills through applied learning. Each assignment builds on the practical experience gained in class, emphasizing proofing, generalization, and curriculum design to strengthen coaching effectiveness and critical thinking.

Students will complete **three major homework assignments** throughout the module, combining practical application with written planning and short video submissions. Assignments vary in length depending on complexity, requiring **approximately 5–20 hours each**, for a total of **33 hours of homework** over the course of the program.

All assignments are completed independently and submitted through Blackboard. Each one is reviewed by a Behaviour Consultant, with personalized feedback provided to help students continue to grow in confidence, competence, and professional skill.

### Module 3 Learning Outcomes

Module 3 provides students with structured, supervised experience hours to apply their skills in real client sessions. Students learn to manage cases from intake to follow-up, write professional documentation, evaluate progress, and integrate feedback from their Mentor Consultant. By working with actual dog–handler teams, students consolidate their competency and prepare for external certification through the CCPDT.

Students will be able to:

- Conduct real client sessions demonstrating safe handling, clear instruction, and ethical decision-making.
- Prepare accurate case notes, progress summaries, and individualized program plans.
- Integrate mentor feedback into session delivery, communication style, and professional development.
- Demonstrate readiness for CCPDT certification through consistent applied practice and reflective evaluation.
- Perform comprehensive session management from intake to follow-up.

- Apply critical thinking to adjust training plans based on client progress and behavioural observations.
- Communicate professionally with clients regarding progress, next steps, and expectations.
- Evaluate training outcomes using structured criteria to determine whether goals are being met.
- Maintain appropriate boundaries, professional conduct, and client rapport throughout the consulting process.
- Collect and interpret relevant behavioural data to inform decision-making in future sessions.
- Demonstrate reliability, preparedness, and time management expected of a professional trainer or behaviour consultant.
- Reflect on personal strengths, challenges, and areas for ongoing skill development as part of the mentorship process.

### **Module 3 – Evaluation Method**

- Recorded Training Session Submissions: 40%
- Mentor Evaluations & Client Feedback: 20%
- Assignments (case files, program plans): 20%
- Written Final Exam: 20%

### **Module 4 – CAPDT Registered Dog Trainer Specialty (Optional Add-On) – To be developed**

#### **Course Description**

Module 4 – CAPDT Registered Dog Trainer Specialty is designed for advanced students who are ready to take their learning to the next level and prepare for the Registered Dog Trainer (RDT) certification exam launching in 2027 through the Canadian Association of Professional Dog Trainers (CAPDT). This six-month program dives deeper into the history, science, ethics, and technical applications of dog training, aligning directly with the CAPDT National Curriculum and Body of Knowledge.

Students will study the history and evolution of animal training, tracing cultural and scientific shifts that shaped modern humane practice. Lectures and practical assignments expand on animal learning theory, exploring the subtle nuances of reinforcement, punishment, extinction, stimulus control, and motivation at an advanced level. Technical coursework addresses the design and development of structured training programs, integrating cooperative care protocols, enrichment, and advanced behaviour-change strategies.

The module also equips students with knowledge of Canadian laws and regulations governing the training profession, including animal welfare legislation, liability, business compliance, and ethical decision-making frameworks.

Critical topics such as canine health, cooperative care, anatomy, and life stages are woven throughout, preparing students to collaborate effectively with veterinarians and allied professionals.

Learning is delivered virtually through live weekend webinars: lectures on Saturdays and practical classes on Sundays, providing both academic depth and applied practice. Each student is assigned a Mentor Consultant, ensuring continuity of guidance and personalized feedback throughout the module.

- **Delivery:** Live weekend webinars (Saturdays – lectures; Sundays – practicals)
- **Duration:** 6 months; two weekends per month, 9:00–17:00; 12 classes total
- **Support:** Assigned Mentor Consultant for the duration of the module
- **Assessment:** 5 quizzes, 6 homework projects, and a final comprehensive exam
- **Credential:** Badge #3 (CAPDT Specialty), stacking with previous badges toward the Academy’s full credentialing pathway

### Admission Requirements

- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Completion of **Module 1**, OR prior education from an approved equivalency program:
  - Companion Animal Sciences Institute (CASI)
  - Karen Pryor Academy (KPA)
  - The Academy for Dog Trainers (Jean Donaldson’s)
  - Victoria Stilwell Academy (VSA)
  - APDT CPDT-KA Prep Course
  - E-Training for Dogs CPDT-KA Exam Study Course
  - IAABC programs
  - Fenzi Dog Sports Academy (FDSA)
  - PACCC/PCSA Canine Specialist Certificate
  - ...or equivalent program approved by the Director of CFTA
- Reliable internet, webcam, and access to dogs/clients for assignments