

ANIMAL BEHAVIOR INSTITUTE

CANINE PROGRAMS



ANIMAL
BEHAVIOR
INSTITUTE

A more personal education

MEANINGFUL



WHAT

IS CANINE TRAINING
ALL ABOUT?

Canine trainers use operant conditioning to modify the behavior of dogs, increasing the frequency of preferred behaviors and eliminating those that are undesirable. Trainers can prepare dogs for a host of specialized activities such as agility competitions, search and rescue, service work, or animal assisted therapy. Alternatively, trainers may work with owners to help them resolve behavioral issues or to train entirely new behaviors. Training can greatly improve the quality of life for both dog and owner, strengthening the bond between them. All trainers need to have a detailed knowledge of canine behavior, but they also need a variety of techniques that can be used to modify those behaviors. At the Animal Behavior Institute, we take a very comprehensive approach to canine training. In addition to training, we include canine behavior, communication, enrichment, nutrition and health. Our broad-based approach provides you with an extensive understanding of canine training and behavior.

We offer four certificate programs in canine training at the Animal Behavior Institute:

Canine Training & Behavior (3 courses)

Advanced Canine Training (5 courses)

Service & Therapy Dog Training (5 courses)

Canine Sports Training (5 courses)

Canine Training & Behavior is a shorter, specialized program covering the essentials of training. The program also incorporates problem solving, behavioral development, and body language.

Advanced Canine Training expands upon the foundation established in Canine Training & Behavior. You'll take an advanced canine training course as well as an elective of your choice. The program incorporates advanced principles of behavioral science to develop more complex training programs.

Service & Therapy Dog Training teaches you how to train dogs for various forms of assistance, with an emphasis on service training and animal assisted therapy, including the training of specific assistance tasks.

Canine Sports Training is for owners and trainers that want to train their canine athletes to excel in sports competitions, such as agility, obedience rallies, and the host of new canine sports that have recently become available. The nosework component of the program includes training for scent detection, discrimination, and tracking.

Are you ready to get started with your new career in canine training? The Animal Behavior Institute is the only institution to offer accredited, online programs in Canine Training, Behavior and Enrichment. Our specialized training will give you the skills you need to effectively modify canine behavior and embark on a new career.

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt and khaki pants, is standing in a grassy field. She is holding a small object in her right hand, and a black and white dog is sitting on the grass, looking up at her with its mouth open. The background is a dense green forest.

PERSONAL

WHO

WORKS WITH
CANINE BEHAVIOR?

Who hires dog trainers and behaviorists? They may be self-employed as trainers or behavioral consultants. Dog trainers may also work for veterinarians, the pet industry, animal shelters, kennels, animal control and the retail pet trade. Trainers may ultimately work with service dogs, show dogs, hunting dogs, or dogs in any number of specialized training programs.

Sample positions include:

- Professional dog trainer
- Behavioral consultant
- Service dog trainer
- Kennel technician
- Therapy dog trainer
- Dog day care staff
- Groomer
- Veterinary technician
- Protection dog trainer
- Pet sitter/walker
- Animal shelter worker
- Rescue dog trainer
- Sports trainer
- Tracker trainer

The outlook for professionals in animal care and service, including animal trainers, is very positive. Employment in these areas is expected to grow 15 percent over the next decade, faster than the average for all occupations*. Salaries vary greatly based on the specific field or employer. For example, independent dog trainers may work for \$25-50/hour or more; opportunities in training have never been greater. Our programs in Canine Training & Behavior will give you the competitive edge you need to succeed.

*U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook.



FLEXIBLE

WHEN

CAN I START?

Now! Getting started is easy - you can apply online in minutes. Your academic advisor can help you plan your courses. Most students complete their certificate in 6-12 months.

Canine Behavior & Training

There are three required courses for this certificate program:

ABI 234 Canine Training*

ABI 271 Canine Behavior & Enrichment*

ABI 312 Canine Health & Nutrition

Advanced Canine Training

The Advanced Canine Training certificate requires the completion of the three required courses in Canine Training & Behavior plus two additional courses (one required, one elective), for a total of five courses.

Additional required course:

ABI 334 Advanced Canine Training

You will also select one elective from the following:

ABI 126 Animal Minds & Emotions

ABI 238 Training Your Therapy Dog*

ABI 254 Canine Aggression

ABI 264 Training the Canine Athlete

ABI 274 Canine Scent Work

ABI 284 Building Your Dog Training Business

*Must have access to a dog.

Service & Therapy Dog Training

There are five required courses for this certificate program:

ABI 232 The Human-Animal Bond

ABI 234 Canine Training*

ABI 238 Training Your Therapy Dog*

ABI 271 Canine Behavior & Enrichment*

ABI 338 Service Dog Training

Canine Sports Training

There are five required courses for this certificate program:

ABI 234 Canine Training*

ABI 264 Training the Canine Athlete

ABI 271 Canine Behavior & Enrichment*

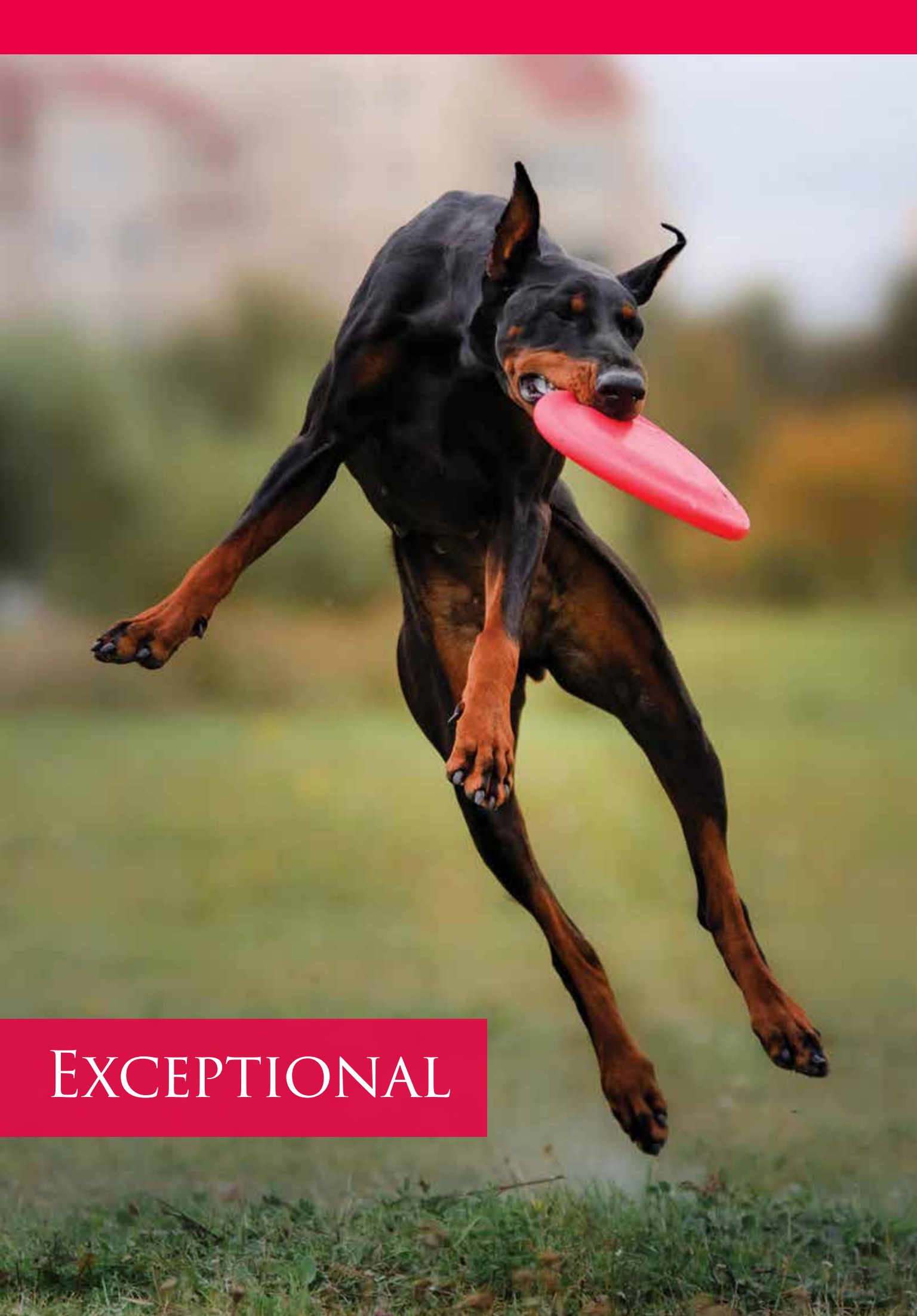
ABI 274 Canine Scent Work

ABI 312 Canine Health & Nutrition

*Must have access to a dog.

Field Requirement

We believe that academic training must be accompanied by real world experience to be truly effective. During your time as a student, you will complete a field requirement consisting of 40 hours of hands-on experience as an employee, intern or volunteer at an approved institution of your choice. Note that students only need to do one field requirement even if they complete multiple canine certificates.



EXCEPTIONAL

WHY

ANIMAL BEHAVIOR
INSTITUTE?

Widespread Recognition & Acceptance

You can be confident about pursuing your education with the Animal Behavior Institute. Our quality programs enjoy widespread acceptance at other institutions. We are licensed by the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges* and accredited by the International Accreditors for Continuing Education and Training (IACET). As a result of this Accredited Provider status, the Animal Behavior Institute is able to offer IACET CEU credits. These credits are accepted by hundreds of professional associations. Credit from our courses can also be applied to meet the continuing education requirements of many educational institutions, including public and private schools.

In addition, individual courses are accepted directly for CEU credit by the Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers (CCPDT). Please see our website at www.animaledu.com for a complete listing of our educational partners.

Upon graduation, students may begin using the designation for their program: CCTBS, Certified Canine Training and Behavior Specialist; CACTP, Certified Advanced Canine Training Professional; CSTDTP, Certified Service and Therapy Dog Training Professional; or CCSTP, Certified Canine Sports Training Professional.

*The Animal Behavior Institute is licensed by the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges having met the requirements of Article 8 of Chapter 115D of the General Statutes of North Carolina. Please note that the NC State Board of Community Colleges is not an accrediting agency.

Personal Support

We'll provide you with close personal support from the day you begin until well after you've finished your program. When you enroll at the Animal Behavior Institute, your academic advisor will help you plan your individual program and answer any questions that arise along the way. Students have the freedom to choose how many classes to take each semester, when to take them and how to pay for them. And our flexible financing makes any program affordable. Students can choose to finance a single course or their entire program – it's up to you.

As an alumnus you'll have access to the same resources you've come to enjoy as a student. This includes access to job and internship listings, advising, and assistance with resumes and cover letters. We're with you before and after you graduate.

Our Approach

All courses at the Animal Behavior Institute share a common core, building a strong foundation and then applying that core to problem solving. The highlight of each week is a student-centered discussion; students work collectively to solve real world problems and case studies. Our approach helps build a strong rapport between each individual, their student colleagues, and the faculty. Small class sizes ensure that you'll know your instructors and receive the personal education you deserve.

A photograph of several dachshunds on leashes standing on a sidewalk. The dogs are of various breeds, including long-haired and smooth-haired varieties. A person's legs are visible in the background, holding the leashes. The image is used as a background for the top section of the page.

PROFESSIONAL

WHAT

IS UNIQUE ABOUT OUR FACULTY?

An academic institution is only as strong as their faculty and ours are outstanding. Our faculty are selected on the basis of their education, experience, and passion for teaching. We'd like to introduce you to two of the instructors in our Canine Training program.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



DR. LINDSAY MEHRKAM

Professor of Canine
Training & Behavior

Dr. Mehrkam received her Ph.D. in Psychology with a specialization in Behavior Analysis from the University of Florida. She has worked with a wide range of species in numerous animal facilities including Disney's Animal Kingdom, Busch Gardens, Mote Marine Laboratory, Wolf Park, and the Santa Fe College Teaching Zoo.

Her primary research interests focus on the benefits of human-animal interaction, enrichment, and training for improving the welfare of captive animals, and especially canines. As a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst, she also provides in-home consultations with both animals and people. Dr. Mehrkam studies applications of the human-animal bond for improving the lives of children with intellectual, developmental, and emotional disabilities. Her research has been published in the Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science and Applied Animal Behaviour Science; she has presented at numerous scientific conferences. Dr. Mehrkam has taught at both the University of Florida and the Santa Fe College Teaching Zoo. She is currently a faculty member at Monmouth University.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



CHERIE ANDERSON BEATTIE

Professor of Canine
Training & Behavior

Professor Beattie received her certification from the Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers while working as the Behavior Manager at the Kentucky Humane Society. There she established a new dog training program to make shelter dogs more adoptable. She currently runs her own dog training business, teaches as an online instructor for the University of Louisville, and serves as a committee member of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers. She regularly contributes articles on dog behavior to several professional newsletters and magazines. Professor Beattie also works in animal assisted activities and teaches a specialized course, offered exclusively at the Animal Behavior Institute, entitled “Training Your Therapy Dog”.

Visit us at www.animaledu.com for a complete list of instructors and their qualifications.

Office of Admissions

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