

6 Weeks Course

Week 1

Welcome to the class, rules of the training school (clean up after your dog, etc.), here's what we'll be doing (AKC Community Canine brochure).

CGC review (optional). You don't need to take the time to test dogs individually, you can do this as a group exercise with everyone in a line or circle. Example: Put the students and dogs in a line. Go down the line greeting each person, pet the dog, and check the ears and feet (CGC exercises 1, 2, and 3). Students are all in a line as you tell them all to forward, etc., or you can call each out of the line one at a time and do the exercise almost as a speed drill.

CGCA Test item

#1: Dog stands, sits or lies down and waits under control

This can be done separately but it is a good exercise for when the instructor has to talk to the class. You can do this at the beginning of each class while you are telling students what they will be doing during this class session.

#10- Dog under control while owner enters/exits a doorway.

You can do this exercise as students leave class. Go to the doorway and tell them each goodbye (or welcome when they arrive) observing the dogs. You can vary how you'd like students to do this. "That was a great class, as you leave, I'm going to stand by the door and watch your dogs. Tonight, I'd like you to tell them to wait and you go through the door first."

HOMEWORK: Practice #1 and #10 if your dog had any trouble with these. For next week, **practice #2 and #3** (take your dog for a walk in the community).

Week 2

Welcome to class 2. (dogs are in a down stay under control). Let's talk about your walks in the community...did anyone have any trouble? What was it?

2 Dog walks on a loose leash in a natural situation and does not pull

Practice loose leash walking, make left and right turns, fast and slow pace and stop. You can do this in smaller groups for a larger class or if you have the space, have them do this in a line (all facing front, or one behind the other).

#3 Dog walks on a loose leash through a crowd

If your class is at a park, etc. you can have students walk by other people at the park. Otherwise, you can have some students put their dogs in crates and act as a natural looking crowd for their classmates, then switch.

HOMEWORK: Practice #4 and #7 plus what you've learned so far. Walk your dog in the community.



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Week 3	This is class 3, we're halfway through (dogs are in a sit stay with owners standing in smaller groups of 3 people each). Did anyone have any trouble this week? What was it? Tonight we're going to work on exercises 4 and 7 from the AKC Community Canine test. We've set up some distractions for you and your dog. We'll do these in class, and then we're all going outside to talk a walk to see how the dogs are doing in the communityyour final test will be done in a community setting. (Classes can be taught in the community).	
	#4 Dog walks past distractions and does not pull Dogs walk by other dogs who are sitting or standing by their owners (dogs 2 ft. apart). In the community, dog walks by other dogs in a hallway, on a sidewalk, on a trail, etc.	
	#7 "Leave it." Dog walks by food and follows owner instructions, "Leave it." Food can be on the floor/ground or in a food pan with a wire cover as in Rally.	
	HOMEWORK: If you have friends with dogs or family members who can help, practice #5 and #6. Try your dog on as many of the 10 Optional items as possible.	
Week 4	This is week 4, you're all doing great. Did anyone get to try the optional items? Is everyone's dog doing okay getting in and out of the car? Have any of you tried your dog on stairs? Elevators?	
	#5 Sit-stay in a small group (two to three other people with dogs). Owners/dogs in a small informal circle while owners have a conversation. For a larger class, you can do this a few times switching the dogs in the group so that dogs are near large dogs, small dogs, etc.	
	#6 Dog allows person who is carrying something (backpack, purse, etc) to approach and pet it. "May I pet your dog?" (in the test, item is placed on floor before person pets dog, but you can also practice with person holding item).	
	HOMEWORK: practice #8 and #9 and any exercises you're having trouble with. Let me show you a quick demo of how exercises #8 and #9 should look before we leave.	



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Week 5	This is our last week of class. Next week, we're going to meet at XYZ and take the AKC Community Canine test. Are you having trouble with any of the exercises?	
	#8 Down or sit-stay-distance (owner's choice, but learn both in class) Dog is on a 20-ft line, owner walks away with back to the dog, picks up an item (shopping or training bag, clipboard, etc) placed on the floor, chair or groung by the evaluator and returns to the dog).	
	#9 Recall with distractions present (coming when called). Owner goes out 20-ft (off center) and calls dog. Dog is on 20-ft line from #8 above	
	HOMEWORK: Next week is the AKC Community Canine test, so practice all of the test items. If you've been exposing your dog to distractions in the community, you should do fine on the test. It will be fun; we're all meeting at XYZ next week atpm.	
Week 6	AKC Community Canine Test Owners receive paperwork to send in for the AKC Community Canine title.	
	5 WEEKS CGCA COURSE	
	For a 5-weeks course, start with Week 2 above. Unless there is time, don't do the CGC test review. Practice #1 (dog waits under control) at the beginning of each class while the instructor talks to the class or while students are waiting their turns.	
	Practice #10 (entering exiting doorway) at the beginning and end of each class.	



Optional Skills for CGCA

These 10 optional community skills are not on the CGCA test, but they can be done in classes when there is extra time.

TEN OPTIONAL ITEMS

A. Car Safety

- 1. Gets in crate, tolerates seat belt, etc. for ride in car
- 2. Unloads safely. Waits for handler cue, does not jump out on own.

B. Public Buildings (that allow dogs)

- 3. Enters safely (automatic doors with handler)
- 4. Down stay in lobby or outdoor area
- 5. Walks under control (on leash) while in building
- 6. Elevator (enters, remains under control beside handler, exits)
- 7. Stairs (up, down, under control by handler)

C. Restaurants/Outdoor Cafes (that allow dogs)

8. Remains under control under/beside table while owner has meal

D. Off Lead Skills

- 9. Walking on leash by owner (practiced indoors, safe location)
- 10. Off lead recall (20 ft.) (practiced indoors, safe location)