

## Learning Theory Module Schedule

### ONLINE MODULE

This will provide the theoretical background to how animals learn, including humans. This is fundamental knowledge if we are going to be able to design and facilitate owners to implement behaviour modification plans, be they comprising preventative training or remedial training.

Date	Time	Topic	Who	Form
1 Sep 24	19:00-20:00	Welcome and introduction	Judit Vas	OMR <sup>1</sup>
From 1 Sep 24		An introduction to learning and implications of ethology, evolution, and domestication	Anne McBride	OR <sup>2</sup>
		Basic principles and language of learning		
		Habituation and Classical Conditioning		
		Operant Conditioning		
		Smarter than we think: cogitating cognition		
		Success means humans - Understanding the human learner		
		I am scared! Using learning theory to prevent and deal with fear problems		
15 Oct 24	19:00-20:00	Q & A session	Anne McBride	OMR <sup>1</sup>
26 Nov 24	19:00-20:00	Q & A session	Anne McBride	OMR <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>OMR: online meeting, recording available afterwards

<sup>2</sup>OR: online available recording of a lecture (appr. 90 minutes per topic)

### IN PERSON WEEKEND (FRIDAY EVE – SUNDAY)

This is where we will be putting it all together. Through a mixture of lectures and practical sessions we will see how theory underpins application and is essential to planning effective, welfare friendly training so the animal is not simply obedient but is an engaged and willing partner in performing required behaviours, regardless of species or context. All in person.

#### **Friday, 10 January 2025**

Time	Topic	Who
18:00-18:15	Welcome, information	Judit Vas, Anne McBride
18:15-20:00	Are we ready to train? - Practical considerations, techniques, and skills	Anne McBride

## Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Time	Topic	Who
9:00-9:15	Welcome, information	Anne McBride
9:15-11:00	The Training Plan – planning for success	Anne McBride
11:00-12:30	Practical animal session, one	Anne McBride, Gry Eskeland
12:30-13:30	Lunch	
13:30-14:15	Review of practical	Anne McBride
14:15-15:45	Practical animal session, two	Anne McBride, Gry Eskeland
15:45-16:15	Fruit break	
16:15-18:00	Problem Behaviour Prevention – communication and cues	Anne McBride

## Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Time	Topic	Who
9:00-9:45	Review of yesterday's practical	Anne McBride
10:00-11:30	Cues and signals	Anne McBride
11:30-12:30	Practical animal session, three	Anne McBride, Gry Eskeland
12:30-13:30	Lunch	
13:30-14:30	Practical animal session, four	Anne McBride, Gry Eskeland
14:30-15:15	Problem Behaviour Prevention – communication and cues	Anne McBride
15:15-15:30	Fruit break	
15:30-16:15	Why is he doing <i>that</i> ? – Introduction to dealing with control problems	Anne McBride
16:30-17:00	Final question, exam information, etc	All

## Pensum

Pearce, J (2008) Animal Learning and Cognition – an introduction, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, Psychology Press  
ISBN: 978-1-84169-656-0

Basic Text for Learning Theory is still 😊

## For those interested in learning more about animal cognition

Wynne C.D.L. and Udell, M.A.R. (2020) Animal Cognition: Evolution, Behaviour and Cognition 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, Bloomsbury Academic, London. ISBN: 978-1-13761-126-0