

Life Skills for Puppies: Training for Trainers



University of Lincoln, 20th to 24th June 2018

(working places only - limited numbers)

A unique opportunity to attend a full 5-day course covering all the theory and practical skills needed to develop your own Life Skills for Puppies course, or integrate the exercises within existing training classes. Suitable for trainers at all levels from early career to advanced.

Taught by the Life Skills team, with sessions also taken by both Professor Daniel Mills BVSc PhD CBiol FRSB FHEA CCAB Dip ECAWBM(BM) FRCVS European & RCVS Recognised Specialist in Veterinary Behavioural Medicine and Helen Zulch BVSc(Hons) DipECAWBM FHEA CCAB MRCVS, veterinary behaviourist, trainer and author.

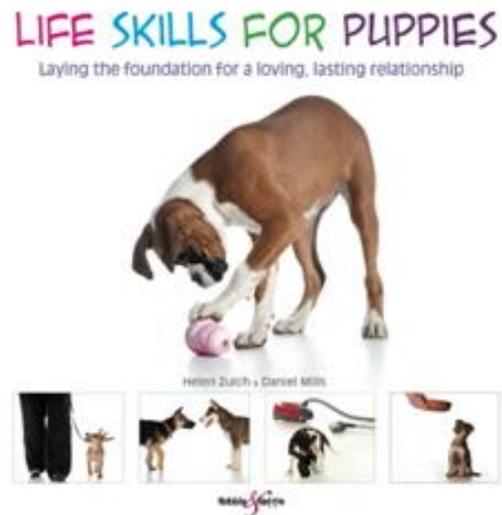
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Photography by Peter Baumber

More about the 'Life Skills for Puppies' concept:

The concepts behind 'Life Skills for Puppies' have been developed over many years by Helen Zulch. Years of experience training dogs, teaching others, raising a number of her own dogs and seeing clinical behaviour cases led Helen to recognise that many of the problems seen in pet dogs result from a lack of broader skills, e.g. self-control, frustration tolerance, or confidence. Being a veterinarian, behaviourist, trainer and dog owner, has given Helen a unique multi-dimensional view that has allowed her to develop theories and practical interventions that aim to educate puppies in ten key areas, or 'life skills'. It is believed that if these ten skills are developed and practiced, dogs will have the best possible chance at succeeding in human society.



Having moved from South Africa to the University of Lincoln in 2008, Helen continued to develop the life skills concepts, and the Life Skills for Puppies book was published in 2012, co-authored with Professor Daniel Mills. Daniel is a recognised Specialist in Veterinary Behavioural Medicine and is highly respected internationally for his work in the field of clinical animal behaviour. Daniel and colleagues have been working on closely related research topics for a number of years, and he continues to oversee on-going research on the theories that underpin the life skills concepts.



What does this course offer that the book doesn't?

Written specifically for puppy owners, the book presents the life skills concepts in a user friendly version for the typical puppy owner. It does not contain any of the technical or scientific underpinning to the concepts, nor does it go into detail on how to structure exercises for a training class environment, or how to educate owners in this setting. The trainers' course offers a complete package, where we will share with attendees the theories, research and practical interventions that are currently being used and developed as part of an ever evolving programme.

Although the course will go into much more depth, we do recommend that all people registering for the course read the book, which is why we include a copy in your delegate bag!

Much more than just a dog training course...

There are many courses available in the UK aimed at teaching attendees practical dog training and instructing skills. However, what we are offering in the 'Life Skills for Puppies Training for Trainers' course is very unique.

The University of Lincoln has developed an outstanding international reputation for its quality of teaching and research in the field of companion animal behaviour. The MSc in Clinical Animal Behaviour, launched in 2009 is now the most sought after post-graduate qualification in the field.

The 'Life Skills for Puppies Training for Trainers' course will be delivered by staff that not only have excellent practical dog training skills, but who are also experienced teachers and researchers working at the forefront of scientific research, and who in addition work with clinical behaviour cases on an on-going basis. The content will be encased in scientific theory, including the latest research and current thinking in the field of dog behaviour.



What the course will cover:

Each of the ten life skills will be covered individually, in depth. Lectures will include detailed material on the underpinning theory, science, and discussion of the related practical exercises. Practical workshops in small groups will give attendees the chance to work through the practical exercises with puppies and adult dogs. Group will be allocated an instructor, who will be an experienced tutor.

In addition, over the course of the five days, all areas that we believe are essential for running Life Skills for Puppies classes to an extremely high standard will be covered. These include class, puppy and owner management, teaching skills, and equipment.

Where:

At the University of Lincoln, Riseholme Park, Lincoln, LN2 2LG. Free parking will be available on site. You are kindly asked to not park in the church car park on Sunday morning.

When:

Wednesday 20th to Sunday 24th June 2018 –
(Approximately 10am-6pm Wednesday, 9am-5.30/6pm Thursday-Sunday). Final times tbc.

Cost:

Early Bird rate (before the 31st of January 2018) **£790.00**

Standard rate (from 1st February 2018 onwards) **£855.00**

Booking:

Booking is available online through the Life Skills website: <http://www.lifeskillsforpuppies.co.uk/training>

(Payment in full is needed to secure your place on the course. Payment options via instalment are available; please see the online shop for more details. Refunds will only be given in exceptional circumstances and only once the place has been filled).



Included in the cost of the course:

- Full hand-outs from the five days of Lectures, workshops and practical sessions
- Full lesson plans for teaching the 'Life Skills for Puppies' course
- Catering for the five days: Lunch each day (individual dietary requirements catered for), tea, coffee and cakes or biscuits during mid-morning and mid-afternoon breaks, tea & coffee on arrival.
- Certificate of attendance on completion of the course
- Membership of the Life Skills for Puppies trainers' Facebook group. This will provide on-going support and access to new developments in the area. It will also facilitate sharing of ideas between members of the group.

Please Note:

This course aims to equip you with the materials and skills needed to run successful classes similar to the Life Skills for Puppies classes which we offer locally in Lincoln. However it also offers you complete flexibility to use the materials and concepts in the way that you choose. We will not be asking you to adhere to a strict program, nor will there be any further costs involved following completion of the course. As such, we will not be specifically accrediting, endorsing or recommending individuals who have attended the Life Skills for Puppies Trainers course. We will also not be giving permission for use of the Life Skills for Puppies logo, since we are not in a position to regulate trainers outside of the University of Lincoln.

We are however fully committed to the on-going development of the Life Skills concepts, and to share those developments with those that have completed our Life Skills for Puppies Trainer's course. To this end we will be setting up a private online group, restricting membership to those that have trained with us. More details will be given during the course.

Accommodation:

Accommodation is not included in the cost of the course. We do not recommend any in particular, but there are many B&Bs, guest houses, self-catering rentals and hotels in Lincoln & the surrounding area. We recommend you view options along with reviews on Trip Advisor (<http://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/>).

Own Dogs:

All dogs (adults and puppies) for you to work with on the course will be recruited for you.

We cannot accommodate you bringing your own dogs with you on the course.

Links and further information:

<http://www.amazon.co.uk/Life-Skills-Puppies-foundation-relationship/dp/1845844467>

<http://www.lifeskillsforpuppies.co.uk/>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YbAGyXO40cU>

For further information and queries please contact us by email: lifeskills@lincoln.ac.uk