

## **Galen Diploma in Canine Massage Therapy – Course Details**

This accredited course gives students the in-depth theoretical knowledge and comprehensive practical skills to practice canine massage.

This unique course is fully accredited through the Open College Network, provides the knowledge and experience to practise Canine Massage Therapy. It has been vigorously assessed and validated by a panel of professionals for its suitability and quality of both content and training methods. For quality control, it is moderated through an external and internal process to maintain the high quality of standards.

The course typically takes 14 months to complete (around 500 hours of work) and students must pass the Theory section of the course before continuing to the Practical part. The course can be started at any time and once four Theory sections are complete, students can enrol for the Practicals (workshops are run twice every year).

Graduating students will receive 49 credits at OCN Level 3.

As a student you will receive one-to-one tuition from experts in their fields, including experienced Canine Sports and Remedial Therapists, Veterinary Surgeons, Human Sports Physiotherapist and Corrective Exercise Specialist, as well as other canine professionals.

The practical course offers the opportunity to practice on diverse types of dog from differing environments and disciplines.

The course level is an equivalent to 'A' level Anatomy and Physiology, therefore the prerequisite is proven knowledge of Anatomy and Physiology to a corresponding GCSE level.

Insurance for the practical section of the course will be essential and will be discussed before the practical sessions start.

The Diploma in Canine Massage Therapy costs £360 for the Theory section and £745 (including all lunches and refreshments) for the Practical section.

There will also be an accreditation fee of around £150 payable when you are on the practical section of the course.

- You will be able to bring your own dog subject to terms and conditions (available on request)
- Location – Sussex near Gatwick
- Accommodation available locally if required.

For further details please email [mail@caninetherapy.co.uk](mailto:mail@caninetherapy.co.uk) or call 0845 3751767 mob: 0781 0600329.

Galen Therapy Centre, expect all their students to respect the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966 and Exemption Order 1962 by never working upon an animal without gaining prior veterinary approval.



## BREAKDOWN OF THE UNITS - THEORY

### Part 1: **THEORY UNITS**

#### (TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE THE PRACTICAL SESSIONS)

**Unit 1 The Principles of Human Massage.** History of Massage, benefits, contraindications, the techniques used and how they influence the different systems, palpation, homeostasis, an introduction into the physiological and psychological effects of massage, gain an overview of other relevant therapies, the veterinary act.

**Unit 2 Canine Locomotion 1.** Identify and name the main skeletal structures, identify the superficial bony structures, compare the canine and human form, understand and identify the anatomical regions and directional terms of the canine.

**Unit 3 Canine Locomotion 2.** The muscular system, location of superficial and deep muscles, fibre type and arrangement, cellular composition and anatomy, understanding the following terms- muscle insertions and origins, tone, fatigue. Understand different types of muscular contraction; fascia, deep and superficial and its role, tendons. The role of ligaments, cartilage and synovial fluid

**Unit 4 The Principles of the Canine Skin, Lymphatic and Venous System.** The skin, structure, functions and anatomy, in relation to it being the medium for massage. The lymphatic system, its function, location of major lymph vessels and nodes, the construction of both, veins of the thoracic and pelvic limb, anatomy of a vein, why these are important to comprehend in relation to massage therapy.

**Unit 5 The Principles of the Nervous System, Common Pathologies and Soft Tissue Injury.** Introduction to neurological system, emphasis on the sympathetic and parasympathetic systems and massage can influence. Interdependencies of the body system, how massage influences the body holistically. Common pathologies – osteoarthritis, hip dysplasia, spondylosis, OCD, muscle spasm, cramp, fatigue, dehydration. Understand the relevance of massage in connection with the effects of injury tissue repair, and how it can help with the prevention of muscular adhesions and scarring.

## PRACTICAL

Part 2: PRACTICAL SESSIONS THE PRACTICAL PART OF THE COURSE WILL BE COMPLETED OVER 4 WEEKENDS, APPROXIMATELY ONE MONTH APART, TWO TIMES A YEAR.

Weekend	DAY	SESSION DESCRIPTION
1	1	Introduction to Human Massage by top Sports Practitioner Sara Dover-McCarthy, coordinated by Julia Robertson Effleurage, Petrissage, friction and percussion. palpation skills. Introduction to Canine Movement, Massage and Muscle Recognition Muscle and superficial bony landmarks recognition, palpation skills, approach veterinary dog/handler, legality issues, consultation forms.
	2	Effleurage technique practice on a variety of dogs.
2	3	Canine Massage techniques Continuing practice and development of massage techniques. Visiting clients with their dogs.
	4	Effleurage, Petrissage, friction and percussion practice. Visiting clients for assessment and treatments and importance of passive movement.
3	5	Canine Massage skills development Hands on practice additional dogs, client handling, questioning skills, Visiting clients with their dogs with predetermined conditions, practice of consultation and treatment skills
	6	Vet Discussion and Seminar (Andy Mead MRCVS Arun Veterinary Group) Common pathologies and conditions, Osteoarthritis, OCD, spondylosis etc. Pre and Post Event Massage
4	7	Live Gait Analysis Demonstration and discussion by Galen Natural Progression Practical techniques assessment.
	8	Final Assessment and Vet Viva Massage and final course assessment

ADDITIONAL TUTORS WILL ASSIST WITH THE PRACTICAL SKILLS ENSURING THE BEST TRAINING AND LEARNER / TUTOR RATIO.

<b>UNIT TITLE</b> <b>theory</b>	<b>CREDIT LEVEL</b>	<b>GUIDED LEARNING HOURS</b>	<b>SELF STUDY HOURS</b>	<b>TOTAL STUDY HOURS</b>	<b>10 HR CREDIT VALUE</b>
Unit 1 The Principles of Human Massage (Swedish Techniques) (theory)	3	10	50	60	6
Unit 2 Canine Locomotion - The Skeleton (theory)	3	10	50	60	6
Unit 3 Canine Locomotion - The Musculature (theory)	3	10	50	60	6
Unit 4 The Principles of the Canine Skin, Lymphatic and Venous System. (theory)	3	10	50	60	6
Unit 5 The Principles of the Nervous System, Common Pathologies and Soft Tissue Injuries (theory)	3	10	50	60	6

UNIT TITLE PRACTICAL	CREDIT LEVEL	GUIDED LEARNING HOURS	SELF STUDY HOURS	TOTAL STUDY HOURS	10 HR CREDIT VALUE
Unit 6 Application of Human Massage (Swedish Techniques)	3	8	2	10	1
Unit 7 Practical Anatomy (Canine)	3	7	3	10	1
Unit 8 Practical Application of Canine Massage	3	50	70	120	12
Unit 9 Canine Practitioner and the Law	3	10	20	30	3
Unit 10 Reflection of Professional Learning	3	3	6	4	1
Unit 11 (optional) Research Skills (optional)	3	3	2	8	1
TOTAL of both Theory and practical units.	3	133	357	490	49

In addition to the practical sessions:

Case studies (to be completed in candidate's own time)



- 5 different individual case studies
- 3 treatments each case study, including:
  - consent obtained from relevant veterinary surgeon
  - full consultation notes and assessment (notes to be completed in correct anatomical language)
  - final report to be sent to veterinary surgeon

Students must find their own case studies, going through the correct legal procedure, gaining veterinary consent before commencing any case study, completing consultancy forms and concluding with a veterinary report.

Case study handlers will be requested to give feedback to the principal at Galen via a written assessment.

During the practical sessions and case studies a personal development log must be completed.

There will also be home study to be completed in-between weekends and between the Saturday and Sunday of the practical sessions.

Insurance is essential before commencement of case studies.

A FULL BREAKDOWN OF THE LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THE FULL COURSE WILL BE AVAILABLE AFTER ENROLMENT.

For further details email [mail@caninetherapy.co.uk](mailto:mail@caninetherapy.co.uk)  
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