

# Course Pack

## Introduction to Canine Anatomy and Physiology

This information pack explains all that you'll need to know about the Introduction to Canine Anatomy and Physiology course. We have tried to include all of the relevant information, however feel free to make contact with us if you have any questions.

- 1) All about the course and suitability.
- 2) What makes this course different?
- 3) How the course is structured.
- 4) Course content.
- 5) The Tutor.
- 6) How long does it take?
- 7) Course costs.
- 8) Enrolment.
- 9) What happens after I enrol?
- 10) Why do a course with us?
- 11) The Galen Approach.

## Section One:

### Introduction to Canine Anatomy and Physiology course

The course is designed to give you a sound knowledge in the basic anatomy and physiology of the dog. This course is great for students who would like to broaden their knowledge before or after different canine courses they may be taking such as hydrotherapy or grooming. It is also great for those who studied a long time ago, and feel they need a revision.

**This course is aimed at students with no prior knowledge of canine anatomy and physiology. It can act as a primer for those wishing to complete our Canine Myotherapy diploma, however if you are looking to go on to study this diploma our Full Course is available.**

## Section Two

### What makes this course different from those provided by other massage training schools?

There are several organisations that offer courses in this field. However, we believe our courses stands head and shoulders above these due to our experience in both treatment and education. To this end, we're happy to provide the following checklist to allow you to make the right choice in terms of courses:

- **This course is accredited through Laser Learning Awards who are approved by Ofqual.**
- The course is continually reviewed, both externally through Laser Learning Awards and internally by Galen's Internal Quality Assessor.
- Our teaching is also observed by our IQA to ensure quality of teaching and feedback.
- All tutors have regular standardisation meetings to ensure continuity of approach and feedback
- All learners are tracked fully through their learning cycle to ensure they are supported
- All tutors have formal qualifications in teaching as well as professional qualifications
- Bespoke student portal allowing completion of work uploads, course progress, and direct access to tutor for two way feedback.
- Dedicated resource centre providing course manuals, videos and libraries including a forum.

**Section Three:****How is The Course Structured?**

This is purely a theory course, which consists of several units of home study.

It is divided into four units, each containing a number of tasks and learning topics (there are generally around 6/7 tasks within each unit). Our students must complete each of these tasks and return to their tutor for assessment via our secure student portal. This ensures regular constructive and open feedback so all students are clear as to the expectations of the course. If a student receives a 'not achieved' then they have another opportunity to resubmit twice after receiving written guidance from their tutor.

The Total Learning Hours are 240 hours with each unit taking around 60 hours to complete. If you choose to have your work accredited through Laser Learning Awards you will receive 24 credits.

**Section Four:****Course Content**

The theory units cover relevant areas Canine Anatomy and Physiology. These are completed in the style of a distance learning or home study course with support from tutors, and by using our learning resources. These include dedicated videos, templates, diagrams and manuals which demonstrate through examples, best practice and what is required. They also provide information around further reading and additional online resources.

**The Units****Unit 1 – Cells and Skin****Unit 2 – The Skeletal System and the Muscular System****Unit 3 – The Circulatory and the Respiratory System****Unit 4 – The Nervous, Endocrine and Digestive Systems**

## Section Five: The Tutor

The tutor for this course is Cushla Lamén

Cushla is one of our most experienced Myotherapists, and has had the opportunity to see first-hand the beneficial effects that canine massage can have on all dogs, of all ages with a wide variety of issues. She feels passionately about the benefits of canine massage and strongly believes that all dogs, whether pets or canine athletes can benefit from this treatment. She's keen to support other people through the learning process, and impart knowledge with the ultimate goal of enriching the lives of dogs.

Qualifications:

- OCN Diploma in Canine Massage Therapy Centre
- Gwen Bailey Puppy School Tutor & Regional Manager
- BA(Hons): London University

## Section Six: How Long Does It Take?

This is a home study course, therefore you can complete it in your own time frame.

We will be reminding you if you haven't completed a task for more than 21 days. Sometimes students start the course and then for all sorts of reasons have to 'take a break'. If this break is prolonged then a small admin charge will be made for re-enrolment)

## Section Seven: Course Costs

The total investment to enrol on the Introduction to Canine Anatomy and Physiology course is £700 (including accreditation fees).

The best way to pay is by calling the office on 01444 881027. Whilst you can also pay online for the course, sadly due to processing costs there is a £25 fee incurred via this method.

This includes all of the theory framework, and access to the online student portal and resource centre. There is no specific requirement to purchase textbooks, however any purchases made by the student from our suggested reading list will be at their own cost.

**Section Eight:****Enrolment In The Course**

We have students from all backgrounds enrol and complete our courses. We also have students from all around the world.

If you wish to enrol on the course then please call us on **01444 881027** or send an email to [lucie@caninetherapy.co.uk](mailto:lucie@caninetherapy.co.uk) for an enrolment form.

**Section Nine:****What happens after I enrol?**

After enrolment, students are sent login information so that they can join our student portal and our 'Resource Centre' which enables access further information and our dedicated forum.

Barbara Smith, our Student Liaison Advisor, contacts all new students via email and ensure they are happy with all the technical details of the course. She offers support and ensures that all learners understand how to submit work, where all of the information is stored, and how to access it. Barbara will also be able to support students with your whole journey, so please contact her in the first instance.

If things are still unclear, our student liaison advisor is able to help with any problems after reading all the instructions.

**Section Ten:****Our Credentials - Why Do a Course with Us?**

We are the longest running and most experienced, specialist Canine Myotherapy (massage) training academy in the UK. Our first accredited training course was in 2006 and was then accredited through the OCN (open college network).

Julia Robertson, head of Galen Therapy Centre speaks internationally and holds workshops all over the world, and we are understood to be at the forefront of all new knowledge. Galen is also recommended by world famous dog experts. This course is for genuinely dedicated people who want to improve dog's lives by being trained by an authentic, ethical, 'dog-centric' and dog understanding organisation. We will train you to treat dogs through trust and choice, not through restraint, muzzling or treating on a table.

Our training is from a backdrop of 35 combined years of dedicated and exemplary tutor experience, through treating over 8,000 dogs and the most long standing externally accredited training organisation specialising in Canine Myotherapy or massage in the UK.

We also train a high number of Canine Professionals, such as Veterinary Surgeons, who go on to use Galen Myotherapy extensively within their practice.

Section Eleven:

## The Galen Approach

Physiology | Anatomy | Psychology

Galen Myotherapy is a unique and highly specialised manual and exercise management therapy for dogs. It uses appropriate, effective and targeted massage techniques and exercise advice to manage chronic muscular pain, reduce inflammation and to maximise muscle function.

Galen Myotherapy incorporates the unique knowledge that has been developed by Galen's founder Julia Robertson through her treatment of over 8,000 dogs since 2002. She was one of the first, if not the first, known dedicated canine practitioners of this type in the UK.

Following on from Julia's groundbreaking work there are now several canine massage organisations in the UK. However having lead the way in this field we're keen to define what Galen specifically and uniquely does.

### ***Our Guiding Principles:***

1. Choice-led treatment.
2. Owner empowerment.
3. High level of specialist knowledge and training
4. The sharing of knowledge.
5. Continual development.

#### ***1. Choice led treatment:***

It's vital for the dog being treated that they feel they have a 'choice' in the treatment. We never use forced restraint, and treatment will always take place on the floor or on a low level, which is where a dog is most comfortable. The practice of 'choice' is one that has now become main-stream with many top trainers and behaviourists using the term.

#### ***2. Owner empowerment***

We recognise that when you dog is struggling owners want to help, and often it is difficult to become involved in their treatment. However, we always include the owners in their dog's treatment plan, imparting techniques that are safe to use, along with exercise planning and 'environment' management.

### **3. High level of specialist knowledge and training**

All Galen Canine Myotherapists®\* are qualified to an exceptional level, and this anatomy and physiology learning is directed at functional application. They understand the dog's anatomy in terms of movement, how the dog's body works and how stress can be reflected through behaviour. This knowledge is then directed into a 'dog centric' application of choice-led treatment.

*\*Only someone that has trained with Galen and is a member of C.A.A.M. can call themselves a Galen Myotherapist.*

### **4. Behavioural Understanding:**

We were the first therapy organisation to discuss the direct connection between muscle pain and specific behaviour patterns. We guide owners and handlers in understanding how muscle pain can be reflected in their dog's behaviour. This information and knowledge is also invaluable when assessing and detecting changes.

### **5. Sharing of knowledge:**

The welfare of dogs is our primary concern, and this takes priority over all other considerations. Therefore we believe in sharing knowledge through training, workshops, symposiums and events all over the world. We truly believe that what we do improves the health and wellbeing of dogs, and encourage our associates to share this in the most appropriate and far reaching ways.

### **6. Continual Development:**

Much of our course content has changed radically over the years due to new developments in understanding the behaviour and physical changes of dogs with muscular issues. We ensure we keep up to date with the latest evidence and findings, and modify our treatment and teaching to incorporate this. Like any science, there are new discoveries constantly, and it's vital for animal welfare that we're at the forefront of current understanding.