



# Crafting the Ultimate Police K9

## Outline

Blue to Gold Law Enforcement Training  
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# GOAL

## **learners**

In-service training for certified law enforcement, including patrol, investigations, specialty units, and administration

## **length of instruction**

8 - hours

Crafting the Ultimate Police K9 will show you canine behaviors and how to adjust them properly. We will delve in the main canine drives and how to use them to our advantage. How to track in various environmental areas. Understanding tracking and odor work will maximize the canine's learning and potential. The importance of keeping logs for courtroom testimony.

## **Course Introduction – 10 minutes**

Instructor introduction.

- 1) Explain the course objective.
  - a) Understand the “why” behind certain canine behaviors and how to adjust them correctly.
  - b) Be able to list and identify the three main canine drives.
  - c) Understand the canine Olfactory System and how it links to the Limbic System.
  - d) Know what affects scent in various environments.
  - e) Know the importance of record keeping and how it applies to courtroom testimony.
- 2) Encourage attendees to ask questions and share feedback with other attendees.
- 3) Explain that certificates will be emailed after the class and each student will be registered in the Blue to Gold University.
- 4) Go over the three disclaimers:
  - a) Laws and agency standard operating procedures may be more restrictive. Blue to Gold teaching the federal standard unless otherwise stated. Therefore, students must know their state and local requirements in addition to the federal standard.
  - b) If students have any doubts about their actions, ask a supervisor or legal advisor.
  - c) The course is not legal advice, but legal education. Therefore, nothing we teach should be interpreted as legal advice. Check with your agency’s legal advisor for legal advice.

## **Module One – Basics of K9 Handling      60 min.**

- 1) Handler Responsibilities
  - a) Handler work ethic.
  - b) Handler mindset.
  - c) Handler individual trainings.
- 2) Common Problems with K9 Deployments
  - a) Tracking failures
  - b) Apprehension failures
  - c) Detection failures
  - d) Proper training time to alleviate liability.

**Module Two – Importance of K9 Drives**

60 min.

- 1) Caged Mindset
- 2) Psychology of Aggression and Fear
  - a) Predatory Aggression
  - b) Affective Aggression
  - c) Ethological Trend
- 3) Clock Genes and How they Affect K9

**Module Three - Scent Process Within the K9**

60 min.

- 1) Neurochemicals in K9 Training
- 2) K9 Olfactory System
  - a) K9 Olfactory System vs. Human
- 3) Limbic System

**Module Four - The Rules of Scent**

120 min.

- 1) The Rules of Scent
  - a) What Affect Scent and How
- 2) Tracking
  - a) Personal Scent
  - b) Environmental Scent
- 3) K9 Tracking Olfaction
- 4) Evidence Articles
- 5) Tracking Vocabulary
- 6) Training Tracks
- 7) Novel environment for the K9
- 8) Semio-Chemicals and the role they play.
- 9) Handler Tracking Basics
  - a) Processing the K9 Negative

- b) Proper Leash Tension
- 10) Three Stages of Rest
  - a) Bloodhound versus Patrol Dogs
  - b) Failed Tracks and What to do

**Module Five – Building Searches**

60 min.

- 1) On Lead vs Off Lead
- 2) Announcements
- 3) Closed Door Alerts

**Module Six – Odor Detection**

60 min.

- 1) Thermodynamics
  - a) Heating/Cooling Scent
- 2) Training Various Areas/Levels
- 3) Three State of Odor Detection
  - a) Effusion/Diffusion
  - b) Narcotics Detection
    - Chemical Makeup of Narcs
    - Process of a Proper Vehicle Scan
  - c) Explosives Detection
    - Six Most Common Explosives
    - Importance of GSR
    - Explosive Search vs. Clearance
- 4) Problem Shooting with Common Detection Issues

**Module Seven – General K9 Rules**

60 min.

- 1) Training Rules
- 2) Training Record Keeping
  - a) Training Record vs Deployment Record
- 3) Courtroom Testimony
  - a) Info to Provide to the Prosecutor
  - b) Answering Defense Attorney's Questions

End of class.