**Psy 331.03 Advanced Laboratory in Operant Conditioning**

**Study guide Week 2: Canine Emotions and Communiction**

***This is a long study guide….but it is also probably the MOST IMPORTANT! Take your time and do a good job on this one and your semester (and your life with dogs) will be much easier!!!!!!***

***Blackshaw (1991) An Overview of Types of Aggressive Behavior in Dogs and Methods of Treatment***

1. Obviously, dogs can’t talk, but they do communicate with humans. What forms of behavior do dogs use to communicate with one another as well as humans? (Hint: Think body parts and their voice!)
2. Describe I mean when I say that “behavior is on a continuum” (remember, a continuum is a continuous measure with no true “points” on the line so it is hard to tell when you move from one aspect to the next). Do you agree or disagree with this?
3. Why is it SO important to examine behavior in context?
4. According to the Blackshaw article, what types of common aggression are observed in dogs? Which dogs were most likely to be aggressive, according to Blackshaw?
5. BRIEFLY define these types of aggression (what is the motivator for the aggression- what does the dog want/want to avoid/is afraid)
   1. Territorial, protective and possessive aggression.
   2. Fear aggression and defensive aggression
   3. Predatory and social aggression.
   4. What is frustration elicited aggression and redirected aggression?
   5. What is pain elicited aggression?
6. What are aggression risk factors?
7. Can aggression be cured? Why or why not?
8. What methods does Blackshaw recommend for aggression?

**Kujala (2017). Canine emotions as seen through human social cognition**

1. Why study does using a human social cognition perspective?
2. How do humans influence dog emotions?
3. Humans have intentionality in their emotions; do dogs have intentionality, or do humans make this mistaken belief?
4. Is there evidence that dogs share similar brain structures to humans that correspond to the same types of emotions? What is one part of the brain we share?
5. What is the most common canine emotion that has been studied? Why do you think humans are most likely to research this emotion?
6. Can dogs “read” our emotional faces, and can humans read theirs? What evidence does the author provide to support her conclusion?
7. The author reviews several “complex” emotions such as guilt, fairness and jealousy. Do dogs clearly show/experience these emotions, or do they show a less complex version of these emotions? What do the data say (give a brief answer).
8. Can dogs console us when we are feeling sad? That is, do the data suggest that dogs can figure out when we are sad and adjust their behavior to make us feel better?
9. What does the author say about dogs having a “cognitive bias”, that is, an outlook on life. What implications do these data have on the welfare of dogs?
10. Finally, what kinds of research does this author suggest we need to do in the future?

**Jacobs, et.al. (2017). Ability of owners to identify resource guarding behaviour in the domestic dog**

1. What was the aim of the study?
2. Describe who the participants were, then describe the videos the participants watched.
3. How were the videos (not the test) standardized? What 5 behavioral categories were used?
4. The results are very technical….what was the final take home message?
   1. What behavior category were the owners best at identifying?
   2. Could owners identify differences *within* a category of behavior?
   3. Could owners identify differences *across* categories of behavior?
   4. What was the effect of owner experience or expertise?
   5. Could owners identify multiple behavior categories when watching a video?

Reid Book, pp 157-165

1. What are some common behavior problems observed in dogs?
2. Can dogs have phobias? How do these phobias develop?
3. Explain how habituation can be used to eliminate a phobia. . Is this a good choice:? Why or why not?
4. Explain how desensitization and counter conditioning can be used to eliminate a phobia. . Is this a good choice:? Why or why not?
5. Explain how flooding can be used to eliminate a phobia. Is this a good choice:? Why or why not?
6. What is separation anxiety? Can it be treated? If so, how?
7. Reid discusses interdog aggression. What does she recommend as a treatment?
8. What treatments does Reid suggest to treat dogs’ aggression towards people?