

**Professor Tasha Willis**

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**MEDIATION EXTERNSHIP SYLLABUS**

Date	Topic
1/20/15	<p>Introductions:</p> <p>The initial class will be designed to discuss the semester, to clarify issues concerning the finalization of certification from the 40-hour mediation class and to discuss proper professionalism in court. We will also finalize mediation schedules and discuss all the ways students can meet their requirements during the semester.</p> <p>Mediation Sign-Up Sheets for Month of January (Please keep in mind that you will also be free to observe, mediate and co-mediate in other venues that are available to you.) Please log every mediation session you are involved in into your weekly journal. This should include the date, the location and the time. This will allow me to keep track of your mediations, co-mediations and observations. Your journals will be due every two weeks by Sunday at midnight.</p>
1/27/15	<p>Class Discussion: Preparing a Client for Mediation</p> <p>Debrief any of the mediations that may have already been conducted.</p> <p>As lawyers, we represent clients in mediation. How do I prepare myself and my client for a successful mediation? How do I make sure my client has a voice in the process? What are the key components of mediation that I would want to cover with my client prior the mediation session? How do I assist my client in making the most cost effective use of the mediation process?</p>
2/03/15	<p>Debriefing Mediations in Class - Journals due via e-mail by midnight</p>
2/10/15	<p>Class Topic: Diversity</p> <p>There will be a movie shown, which will constitute the subject of the diversity written assignment. It is important that students attend this class and the discussion the following week to be able to properly complete the assignment.</p>
2/17/15	<p>Diversity Discussion of Assignment – Journals due via e-mail by midnight</p>
2/24/15	<p>Class Discussion: Confidentiality in Mediation (Pros and Cons):</p> <p>Mediators are expected to maintain confidentiality; what are the pros and cons of maintaining this rule?</p> <p>Debriefing Mediations in Class</p>

03/03/15      Debriefing Mediations in Class -Journal due via e-mail by midnight

03/10/15      Neutrality v. Fairness

Mediators are expected to be neutral. What should you do if one party is clearly out-lawyered; agreeing to something that you believe is an unfair agreement; is the process really “fair” for all people (cultural and other “ism” affects on the process)?

Debriefing Mediations in Class

03/17/15      Debriefing Mediations in Class -Journal due via e-mail by midnight

Class Discussion: Circumventing Impasse

Mediators are supposed to be trained to assist parties in circumventing impasse. What are some of the main reasons that lead to impasse in a mediation? What can a mediator do to assist the parties in circumventing impasse? What barriers to settlement have you experienced in your own mediations?

03/24/15      Dealing with Uncooperative Parties

If you have had a chance to conduct your first mediation, have you already had the opportunity to deal with an uncooperative party in mediation? If so, how did you handle the situation? If not, how do you normally choose to handle uncooperative people? Do you envision your general approach as working in a mediation setting? Overall, what do you believe are the best techniques for handling uncooperative parties during a mediation session?

03/31/15      The class session will be devoted to answering questions about the final presentation.

04/07/15      Class Group Presentation

04/14/15      Final Review and Submission of Outstanding Paperwork

04/21/15      Student Group Project Presentations

04/28/15      **Last Day of Class**

#### MEDIATION EXTERNSHIP ADDITIONAL WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT

\*\*\*\*\* Students will be assigned a group project during the semester. The second to the last day of class will be reserved for the presentation of the group projects.

**Please Note:** Class participation will contribute to the 1 credit hour graded component of this class. The student journals will account for 50% of the graded component, the diversity assignment 10% and the group project will count for 40%.