

**COURSE:** LAWS 3006B – Mediation

**TERM:** WINTER 2020

**PREREQUISITES:** LAWS 1001 and LAWS 1002 and (1.0) credit in LAWS at the 2000 level or 0.5 credit in LAWS at the 2000 level and BUSI 2601

**CLASS:** Day & Time: Mondays, 6:05pm to – 8:55pm  
Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location

**INSTRUCTOR:  
(CONTRACT)** Collin Fletcher

**CONTACT:** Office: Room B442 Loeb Building (Contract Instructor’s Office)  
Office Hrs: By appointment only  
Telephone: 613-806-3293  
Email: collin.fletcher@carleton.ca

---

**CALENDAR COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Theory and practice of mediation; historical roots and influences; contrasts with formal litigation and other dispute resolution processes; issues of social and legal control; critiques, including feminist, Marxist and critical race theory; issues of power, gender, race and class; application to contemporary issues and disputes.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

In this course, we will examine the subject of mediation in the context of the law. Mediation is a process that has gained popularity and attention in the last several decades. Mediation, like many forms of alternative dispute resolution, has the potential to transform our views on justice and how our legal system operates. This course will examine the history of conflict and the legal system and the factors that led to the rise of mediation and alternative dispute resolution. The course will also examine the mediation process from a number of different perspectives, looking at important issues such as emotion and justice, culture and diversity and the role of a lawyer in mediation. While this course will present a positive view of mediation and the potential it presents to the Canadian legal system, we will examine the limitations and flaws of mediation. Who stands to benefit from justice becoming privatized?

The course format is seminar style, with a heavy emphasis on class discussions and students' participation based on your readings of the papers and the academic views being discussed. You are expected to participate actively in class discussions. The professor will call on students during the class for their input - whether it is to respond to a question posed, offer critiques on a position put forward or to put forth their own topics for discussion. Students should attend class prepared for each class, as the professor will call students at random to engage in class discussion.

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

Readings will be placed on CULearn or links will be provided in the course outline. Some sources may be accessed through the Carleton library website.

**EVALUATION**

**(All components must be completed in order to get a passing grade)**

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Department and of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Department and the Dean.

1. **Attendance and Participation (20%) - Ongoing**
2. **Course Paper Proposal (10%) - February 3 2020**
3. **Course Paper (30%) - March 23, 2020**
4. **Final Examination (40%)**

All assignments must be typed or word-processed and submitted in hard copy on the date specified in the syllabus. Assignments will not be accepted by email. Always retain a copy of the submitted work. In the event of loss, theft, destruction, dispute over authorship, or any other eventuality, it will be your responsibility to provide a copy of your work. Keeping earlier drafts of your work and other materials is strongly encouraged.

**Attendance & Participation (20%)**

Students will be expected to attend every class. In addition to the student's attendance, the students are expected to read the required readings and discussion pieces in advance of the class. The expectation of students will be that when you attend class, you are prepared to identify and discuss the issues from these pieces. 10% of the grade will be for attendance and 10% of the grade will be for active participation in and out of the class.

As participation is encouraged in this class, a flawless understanding of the text and materials is not required. A student's uncertainty on the subjects being discussed can itself be used to develop discussion in the class. Open ended or probing questions are just as valid a form of participation as analysis.

Attendance will be taken every class. A perfect attendance is not required. It is fine if a student misses one class during the semester due to personal issues.

Participation is about a constructive dialogue **inside** and **outside** of the classroom. Students' participation in the classroom will include answering and asking questions, sharing their own thoughts and critiques on subject matters and relating the course material to their own experiences and lives. This is the primary way students will engage with the course. Students who do not feel comfortable engaging in participation in the classroom may engage outside of the classroom as well. Students may send me their own questions and critiques that they may not feel comfortable presenting to the class themselves by email. Students may also send additional readings and articles to me so I can distribute amongst the class. Students may also make use of the professor's office hours to discuss subjects with the professor that can be brought up for future discussion. These instances of engaging outside of the confines of the classroom are just as valid forms of participation as those taking part in the classroom.

However, a necessary skill that students **must** obtain during their undergraduate degree is their oral advocacy skills. Students are encouraged to take risks and push themselves academically to speak in class.

The participation grade will be used to assess the quality of the student's engagement with the class. Quantity of discussion does not necessarily mean quality of discussion. A student who responds often to questions but fails to participate in a manner that creates discussion will not be graded as highly as a student who participates less frequently but who consistently constructs a productive dialogue in the classroom.

Some of the topics that will be discussed are considered controversial and members of the class may have strongly held differences of opinion. This is the basis for a very robust discussion in the classroom. All discussion, however, should be respectful of others, of differently held views and of the classroom space. The use of offensive terminology or personal attacks will not be tolerated in the classroom and will result in a reduced participation grade.

### **Course Paper Proposal (10%) & Course Paper (30%)**

Students will be required to submit a Course Paper and a proposal for that paper.

The Course Paper will be on the subject of the student's choosing as it relates to Mediation. Students may write on any of the subjects covered in the readings and lectures OR may research a topic not covered during the lectures. Students may change their topic after receiving feedback from the course paper proposal. Students are encouraged to think creatively and outside the box. In past years, the students who have a refined and interest thesis statement often succeed.

The Course Paper proposal will consist of 10% of your final grade and **is due on February 3, 2020**. The proposal cannot exceed two pages, double spaced, with a 12-sized Time News Roman font. The student is required to provide, at bare minimum: a) the topic, b) the research question, c) the working thesis of your paper, d) proposed arguments in support of your thesis, and e) a proposed bibliography with at least 5 sources that you are planning to use for your paper. Students will be expected to sufficiently explain their thesis, arguments and purpose of the paper. Students will be assessed on their understanding of the topic in question, their engagement with the subject matter proposed and their ability to briefly explain their proposed paper to the professor. Students will receive constructive feedback on their proposals to assist them in the writing of their Course Paper.

The Course Paper will consist of 30% of your final grade and will be **due on March 23, 2020**. The Course Paper cannot exceed fifteen pages, double spaced with a 12-sized Time News Roman font. There is no minimum page requirement for the Course Paper. The Course Paper will be assessed for the student's: 1) understanding of subject matter, 2) the strength of their argument, 3) the organization and coherence of the essay and its arguments, 4) the writing style (spelling, grammar, sentence structure) used in the paper, and 5) the quantity and quality of the bibliography.

### **Final Exam (40%)**

This final examination will be a three hour, open book examination with short answer and essay questions. Students will be permitted to bring in copies of their notes, but will not be permitted to bring in copies of the class readings. The final examination will be based on the required texts, in-class lectures and discussion and any further materials distributed throughout the semester. There will be a final exam review class scheduled for the final lecture.

The final examination date will be available online and will take place during the formal examination period

### **Notes about Assessment and Evaluation**

**All components must be completed in order to get a passing grade--Failure to complete any portion of the required course assessment will result in a final grade of F.**

A deferred examination or essay assignment, following the same format, may be written upon application to/approval from the Registrar's Office.

Exams are not returned but may be reviewed with me during office hours the following term. Essays will be returned at the final exam at the end of term. They may also be picked up from me during office hours or returned by post where a stamped self-addressed envelope is provided.

Late essays will be marked down one-half letter grade (eg. B to B-) for each day submitted after the due date without authorized extension from me, subject to the discretion of the professor. Essays must be typed or word-processed and submitted in hard copy. Handwritten papers, computer files, or email attachments will not be accepted. Please retain a photocopy or a secure file copy of the submitted essay. Essays should be submitted in person to me in class on the due date, during my office hours at Kroeger College or deposited in the essay drop box located outside the Law Department General Office, C473 Loeb Building, by 4:00 pm (the Department of Law assumes no responsibility for essays or assignments submitted in an irregular manner). All assignments must be original. Prior approval of the instructor must be obtained if it is intended to submit work that has previously or concurrently been submitted for credit in this or another course. Please make careful note of regulations concerning academic integrity referred to above and related instructional offences as described in the Undergraduate Calendar.

### **SCHEDULE**

<b>JANUARY 6</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>
<b>JANUARY 13</b>	<b>UNDERSTANDING CONFLICT, LITIGATION &amp; THE RISE OF MEDIATION</b>
<b>JANUARY 20</b>	<b>NEGOTIATION, NEGOTIATION THEORY &amp; TYPES OF NEGOTIATIONS</b>
<b>JANUARY 27</b>	<b>THE MEDIATION PROCESS - AKA WHAT IS A MEDIATION</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 3</b>	<b>EMOTION, JUSTICE AND MEDIATION</b>
	<b><i>Course paper proposal is due February 3rd, 2019</i></b>
<b>FEBRUARY 10</b>	<b>THE LAWYER'S &amp; MEDIATOR'S ROLE IN MEDIATION</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 17</b>	<b>NO CLASSES - READING BREAK</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 24</b>	<b>DIVERSITY AND POWER IMBALANCES IN MEDIATION</b>
<b>MARCH 2</b>	<b>LABOUR DISPUTES/EMPLOYMENT LITIGATION AND MEDIATION</b>

<b>MARCH 9</b>	<b>CIVIL LITIGATION &amp; MEDIATION</b>
<b>MARCH 16</b>	<b>FAMILY LAW &amp; MEDIATION</b>
<b>MARCH 23</b>	<b>CHILD PROTECTION MEDIATIONS</b>
<i><u>Course paper is due March 23, 2020</u></i>	
<b>MARCH 30</b>	<b>RESTORATIVE JUSTICE MEDIATION</b>
<b>APRIL 6</b>	<b>COURSE &amp; EXAM REVIEW</b>

Readings will be made available on the CULearn website. Each week there will typically be two academic articles and a lighter discussion piece for your review.

---

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

**Pregnancy obligation:** Please contact me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: <https://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/academic/students/>

**Religious obligation:** write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: <https://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/academic/students/>

**Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact The Paul Menton Centre (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC Website for their deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable). <https://carleton.ca/pmc/students/accommodations/>

### **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own. Plagiarism includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, art works, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, and material on the Internet. Plagiarism is a serious offence.

More information on the University's Academic Integrity Policy can be found at:

<https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>

### **Survivors of Sexual Violence**

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: <https://carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support/>

### **Accommodation for Student Activities**

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit:

<https://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/academic/>

### **Department Policy**

The Department of Law and Legal Studies operates in association with certain policies and procedures. Please review these documents to ensure that your practices meet our Department's expectations.

<http://carleton.ca/law/current-students/>