

**ADVANCED DISPUTE RESOLUTION WRITING SEMINAR
SUMMER 2018**

Professor: Joan Vogel

Contact Information¹: E-mail: jvogel@vermontlaw.edu
Phone: (802) 831-1296 (Office)

Class: Fridays, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Materials: Jessica Clark and Kristen Murray, *Scholarly Writing: Ideas, Examples, and Execution* (2d. ed. 2012), various handouts and web based materials which will be posted on TWEN in the "Course Materials and Reading Assignments" section²

"The courts of this country should not be the places where resolution of disputes begins. They should be the places where the disputes end after alternative methods of resolving disputes have been considered and tried."

-Justice Sandra Day O'Connor

This course will introduce students to a wide range of alternative dispute resolution topics to assess the statement above. At the same time, the course will introduce students to the process of writing scholarly articles. Students will explore strategies for outlining, researching, drafting and editing an article of publishable quality. Students will also regularly share their work with members of the class to engage in peer review. Students are evaluated through class participation, occasional in class exercises, an outline, a draft, a final paper, a final presentation, and their peer reviews of class colleagues. The scholarly article produced in this class is eligible to satisfy the Advanced Writing Requirement.

Course Expectations: In this course, you are expected to come to class on time and well prepared for class discussion. Class attendance is mandatory. Your participation in class exercises and discussions will count towards your final grade. Please note that participation does not simply mean making a comment in class. In other words, your participation will be measured by its meaningfulness and utility to the overall discussion. Even if it may not seem so to you, internet surfing during class is both obvious and distracting and will negatively impact your final grade. In addition, always strive to be respectful of your colleagues and the classroom. Your failure to do so may result in negative consequences with respect to your final grade. Finally, you should review and must abide by the Vermont Law School Honor Code, which is found in your student handbook.

Plagiarism Policy: All work you turn in must be your own and include appropriate quotations and citations to referenced materials, with the exception of those projects where you are expected to collaborate with your peers. Even in those instances, you should not seek outside help with your assignments except to ask the reference librarian, writing specialist or academic support to review or

¹ The easiest, most reliable and fastest way to reach me is by email. You should allow at least twenty-four (24) hours before expecting to receive a response.

² Supplemental readings and handouts posted on the class TWEN site are not required, but are included for those students interested in additional resources.

help you with your work. Plagiarism is an Honor Code violation that will result in an F in the course and a referral to the Vice Dean for Academic Affairs for further action.

Submitting assignments: Unless I specify otherwise, please submit any assignments in accordance with what has been specified in the syllabus. Typically, assignments are turned in by hard copy in class, but I will let you know in advance if I wish to receive them otherwise.

Failure to turn in an assignment on time will result in a deduction of one letter grade for each day it is late. For example, a B will become a B-. This rule is **strictly enforced** unless I have given permission to turn in an assignment late in advance of the due date. Interviews, social functions, etc. will not be considered appropriate excuses to turn in a late assignment. Also note that spelling and grammar are considered in your grades, so **please edit your work carefully**.

Grading Policy: Your grade in this course will be based on class attendance and participation, as well as any additional writing assignments, and the final take home exam. The weight given to each is as follows:

Outline	10%
First Draft and Final Draft	50%
Presentation	20%
Participation ³	20%

Week 1

Friday, June 9

Reading: Chapters 1 and 2, Clark and Murray

Assignment: Prior to class, begin considering and broadly researching a topic for your final paper to create a draft thesis. Your topic needs to be **related to dispute resolution** in some way, but can address any substantive topic. By way of example, students have previously written about opportunities for collaborative decision making in the context of international food aid. Other students have written about siting for wind energy or sports arbitration processes. You need not be wedded to the topic and thesis you choose for this first class, but the more you do early on, the easier it will be to finish a solid paper by the end of our short semester.

Week 2

Friday, June 15

Reading: Chapter 3, Clark and Murray

Assignment: Perform preemption check, draft a brief summary of your topic and a one sentence thesis statement to bring to class. Please bring 2 copies.

Week 3

Friday, June 22

³ Participation includes attendance, timeliness, participation in class discussion, topic and source list assignments, preparation for conference, agenda for conference, and peer reviews.

Reading: Chapter 4

Assignment: Draft an outline that includes a list of sources to bring to class. This list should be relatively broad, as you will continue to narrow and refine it over the course of the next few weeks. At this point, however, you should be prepared to talk about your article topic in broad terms. Please bring two copies.

Week 4

Friday, June 29

Revising your own writing can be daunting, but one of the most effective tools you learn as a writer. In this class, students will take their rough drafts and perform a self-edit, then do a peer edit, based on a series of checklists to determine how to begin refining and polishing their drafts.

Reading: Clark and Murray, Chapters 5 and 6

Assignment: First draft of paper due. Please bring two copies to class.

Week 5

Friday, July 6

NO CLASS – Summer Break

Week 6

Friday, July 13

Individual conferences scheduled this week.

Assignment: Please submit a copy of your revised draft on Monday, July 9 via email by 5:00 p.m. You will receive your critiqued draft the day before your conference. Please prepare an agenda for the conference.

Week 7

Friday, July 20

This class will be an open session where students will bring in their polished drafts for individual critiques in preparation for their presentations the following week. In this session, students are expected to bring a nearly completed final version of their papers (meaning all sections are complete with incorporated revisions). There are many different ways to present a paper to an audience. In this class, we'll discuss how to effectively cover the points in your article for the audience to which you're presenting. In addition, we'll discuss preparing an abstract of your paper and how to prepare for publication.

Reading: Handout

Assignment: Prepare an outline for your presentation and bring two copies to class, as well as your latest version of your draft.

Week 8**Friday, July 27**

Individual presentations

Assignment: In these final classes, each student will present their final papers to the class for peer review. Because each member of the class has received a copy of each student's final paper prior to this session, all members of the class are expected to meaningfully comment to and ask questions of the student presenters.

Week 9**Friday, August 4**

Individual presentations

Assignment: In these final classes, each student will present their final papers to the class for peer review. Because each member of the class has received a copy of each student's final paper prior to this session, all members of the class are expected to meaningfully comment to and ask questions of the student presenters.

Assignment: Final Papers Due by 5:00 p.m. via email.