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# **Rutgers University – Newark**

# **Clinic in Conflict Resolution and Mediation (Mediation 3)**

**27:202:513:01**

**Course Overview/Course Objectives**

The Clinic course consists of independent mediation and conflict resolution research and application of theory learned from previous courses through simulations, roundtable discussions with professional guest speakers, and a deeper philosophical outlook on the rule of law and access to justice. This course provides an opportunity for students to gain work experience and engage in hands-on ethnographic research within a court system as a volunteer court officer specializing in Conflict Resolution and Facilitative Mediation.

**Prerequisite:**

* The clinic course is open to Criminal Justice Master’s Degree students that have completed Mediation 1 and Mediation 2 courses and have been sworn-in by an Assignment Judge of the Superior Court of New Jersey.
* A minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.2 must be obtained prior to enrollment in the clinic course
* Students must have already complied with all clinic and court required obligations/requirements before registering for this course.
* Students must have completed at least 2 mediations independent as a requirement in the Mediation 2 course or if waived by the Professor

**Course Learning Objectives:**

The purpose of this course is to provide Criminal Justice majors with an opportunity to:

* Develop practical skill sets in real life situations
* Apply mediation, conflict resolution, and research skills in an applied setting
* Sharpen research, mediation, critical writing and oral communication skills.
* Become conversant in the relevant scholarly literature through intensive literature reviews and research
* Engage in participant observation experiences and develop qualitative note-taking skills
* Foster network development and professional skills in preparation for a career in criminal justice or graduate school

**Required Readings:**

Golann, D. (2009). Mediating Legal Disputes: Effective Techniques to Resolve Cases. 2nd Edition.

Emerson, R. M., Fretz, R. I. & Shaw, L. L. (2011). *Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes*. 2nd Edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. ISBM: 9780226206837 (avail. at the RU-N Barnes & Noble)

**Course Requirements:**

You must complete the following for full course credit:

1. Complete at least 4 Mediation as a Mediator with an observer who can provide feedback\*
2. Completion of required reading and submission of assignments and quizzes
3. Mandatory Attendance of in-person courses during designated times unless told otherwise
4. You are also required to attend at least ONE (1) mediation related event either in person or via Zoom and a summary 1 page paper will be required by the end of the semester.

\*upon court approval

**II. Course Structure**

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| **Week** |  | **Date** | **Topics and Assignment Deadlines** |
| **1** |  |  | **Introduction and Syllabi Explanation** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **2** |  |  | Golann, D. (2009). Mediating Legal Disputes: Effective Techniques to Resolve Cases. 2nd Edition.   * Chapter 1 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **3** |  |  | Golann, D. (2009). Mediating Legal Disputes: Effective Techniques to Resolve Cases. 2nd Edition.   * Chapter 2 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **4** |  |  | Golann, D. (2009). Mediating Legal Disputes: Effective Techniques to Resolve Cases. 2nd Edition.   * Chapter 3 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **5** |  |  | Golann, D. (2009). Mediating Legal Disputes: Effective Techniques to Resolve Cases. 2nd Edition.   * Chapter 4   Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes   * Chapter 1 & 2 |
|  |  |  | **Written Assignment #1 / Quiz #1** |
| **6** |  |  | Golann, D. (2009). Mediating Legal Disputes: Effective Techniques to Resolve Cases. 2nd Edition.   * Chapter 5   Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes   * Chapter 3 & 4 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **7** |  |  | Golann, D. (2009). Mediating Legal Disputes: Effective Techniques to Resolve Cases. 2nd Edition.   * Chapter 6   Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes   * Chapter 5 & 6 |
|  |  |  |
| **8** |  |  | Golann, D. (2009). Mediating Legal Disputes: Effective Techniques to Resolve Cases. 2nd Edition.   * Chapter 7   Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes   * Chapter 7 |
|  |  |  |
| **9** |  |  | Golann, D. (2009). Mediating Legal Disputes: Effective Techniques to Resolve Cases. 2nd Edition.   * Chapter 8 |
|  |  |  | **Quiz #2** |
| **10** |  |  | Golann, D. (2009). Mediating Legal Disputes: Effective Techniques to Resolve Cases. 2nd Edition.   * Chapter 9-10 |
|  |  |  | **Written Assignment #2** |
| **11** |  |  | Golann, D. (2009). Mediating Legal Disputes: Effective Techniques to Resolve Cases. 2nd Edition.   * Chapter 11-12 |
|  |  | **Quiz #3** |
| **12** |  |  | Golann, D. (2009). Mediating Legal Disputes: Effective Techniques to Resolve Cases. 2nd Edition.   * Chapter 13-14 |
|  |  |  |
| **13** |  |  | Golann, D. (2009). Mediating Legal Disputes: Effective Techniques to Resolve Cases. 2nd Edition.   * Chapter 15-16 |
|  |  |  | **Written Assignment #3** |
| **14** |  |  | **Quiz #4** |
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**III. Grading**

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| **Course Components** |  | **Letter Grade** |
| Attendance, discussion boards, and quizzes (30%) |  | As = ≥90% |
| Written Assignments (40%) |  | Bs = ≥80% |
|  |  | Cs = ≥70% |
| Mediations Requirements and Mediation Feedback Forms (30%) |  | Ds = ≥60% |

**Quizzes:** There will be 4 quizzes made directly from the materials of the Mediating Legal Disputes: Effective Techniques to Resolve Cases book. Each quiz will cover 4 chapters of the book.

**Written Assignments**

Each student will complete three written assignments. All papers must be submitted on canvas through the relevant Turnitin link or link found. Late assignments will not be accepted except under extenuating circumstances. This will make up 40% of your grade. They are as follows:

***Assignment #1: Research Paper Continuation***

Already after completing Mediation 2, you were assigned a research paper for publication. This assignment will continue from that research and build upon it more with additional sources and refinement so it can be published to a place of your choice so by the end of these courses you will have this to add to your resume/CV. Mediate.com is a great place to start, but we can research alternatives as well.

***Assignment #2: Ethnographic Research Demo\****

You are tasked with going to a location of your choice, sit in a spot where you will be able to hear people, and observe everyone in your surrounding area. Ex. You can go to a Starbucks and sit and observe customers, workers, etc. You will be doing ethnographic research for answering the following question

“What are the characteristics, experiences and attitudes of the people in a location of your choosing.”

Please include name of location, amount of time spent there, jottings (don’t include real names, please use Person #1, #2, etc.) These jottings can include physical qualities, emotional qualities, direct quotes, etc. You will then take these jottings and reformat them into full notes in paragraph form. This full report must be written so that any reader can imagine the exact area and people you have witnessed.

The third phase of this is called Coding. These are patterns of characteristics you found or did not find amongst the people you observed. Analyze the data.

An example of how this assignment is done can be found on Canvas.

***Assignment #3: Applying Mediation Into Career***

Throughout the semester you will be conducting Mediations for this course\*. For this assignment, you must take ethnographic notes from each of the mediations similar to Assignment #2. You are then tasked to write at least a 5-page paper on what you have learned as a mediator from these mediations and from all of the 3 courses of this certification program. Please discuss how these skills will be applied into your future career goals. What are some of the areas in which you would like to improve upon? Please use citations of theory and real world examples to discuss how you can apply mediation

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**Mediator Feedback Forms**

Every Student Mediator has attained a high standard of training and professional

Competency in the practice of mediation. On completion of each mediation, the observer

must complete a Feedback Request Form. Feedback may:

* Help future users to have more information about working with this mediator
* Provide the mediator with an opportunity to know your perception of the

Mediation process on this occasion, how effective (s)he was, and why, and

* Enable the mediator’s Peer Reviewer to prepare the Mediator’s evaluation.

### **IV. Course Policies**

### **Class Time Rules**

All members of this class are required to conduct themselves in an appropriate and professional manner. Laptops are permitted only if disengaged from the internet and other electronic devices should be stored away unless you specifically seek the instructor’s permission. In this class, we may have discussions that challenge our taken for granted assumptions about crime and justice. Students should be prepared to engage honestly and openly about this material and perhaps even examine their own beliefs about the issues. While I am hopeful that the course materials will spark interesting discussion, personal insults or other types of demeaning, disrespectful, or threatening comments toward other class members about their experiences, backgrounds, or statements will NOT be tolerated.Eating and the use of cell phones (including texting and surfing the Internet), is prohibited during the class time. Cell phones should be turned off before the start of a class session and stored within your bag or pocket*.*

**Academic Integrity**

As a member of the Rutgers University community, you are not to engage in any academic dishonesty. You are responsible for adhering to basic academic standards of honesty and integrity as outlined in the Rutgers University Policy on Academic Integrity for Undergraduate and Graduate Students <http://studentconduct.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity>

Your academic work should be the result of your own individual effort, you should not allow other students to use your work, and you are required to recognize and reference any material that is not your own. Violations of the university’s policy will result in appropriate action.

**Academic Resources**

**The Writing Center:** The Writing Center offers writing tutoring and writing workshops to all undergraduate students currently enrolled in classes on the Rutgers, Newark campus. To request more information, sign up for tutoring or to register for workshops, visit Conklin Hall 126, or online at: <http://andromeda.rutgers.edu/~nwc/>

**Rutgers Canvas System**

All of the materials and assignments for this course can be accessed on, and downloaded from, the Rutgers’ Canvas Course site. Your login information is the same username and password you use to access your Rutgers student information. If you utilize an email address that is different from the one that Rutgers assigns you, please change your email address on Canvas**.** Emails will be sent to the class through Canvas. Students are responsible for any messages sent via the Canvas message system.

**Students with Disabilities**

Rutgers University is committed to providing equal educational opportunity for persons with disabilities in accordance with the Nondiscrimination Policy of the University and in compliance with § 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. For additional information please visit the website <https://ods.rutgers.edu/> or contact the representative for the Newark Campus.

Allen Sheffield

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Website: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

Psychological and Counseling Services

If you experience psychological or other difficulties as a result of this course, or because of other issues that may interfere with your performance in the course, please contact the university’s psychological and counseling service center (<http://www.counseling.newark.rutgers.edu>; 973-353-5805), which is located in Blumenthal Hall, room 101. The center offers a variety of free, confidential services to part-time and full-time students who are enrolled at Rutgers.

If you are interested in finding out more about

• Accelerated Master's Program (B.S. /M.A.)

• Criminal Justice National Honor Society (Alpha Phi Sigma)

Please refer to the School of Criminal Justice website <http://rscj.newark.rutgers.edu/>

Follow us, to stay up to date! @SCJ\_apps



