



LawShelf Educational Media

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Course Description

The Alternative Dispute Resolution course is a primer in methods by which legal disputes can be resolved without litigation, both by the parties themselves and under the auspices of the justice system. The course focuses on the three major avenues of resolving disputes outside of litigation: negotiation, mediation, and arbitration. It also covers major ADR legislation, such as the Federal Arbitration Act, and how arbitration awards can be enforced in court.

Course Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Describe the goals of alternative dispute resolution and the advantages of various ADR mechanisms over litigation;
- Distinguish between the various methods of alternative dispute resolution and determine the strengths and weaknesses of each;
- Apply the rules governing arbitration, including the Federal Arbitration Act.
- Incorporate alternative dispute resolution clauses into contracts;
- Describe the process of enforcing arbitration awards in state and federal court.

Final Exam

Grades and credit recommendations are based solely on a final exam. When students are ready to take the final exam, they should register for a LawShelf account (or simply log in, for those with existing accounts). Go to the video-course page and click “Take the Final Exam” and pay the exam fee, where applicable. Students will be given instructions on how to take the exam. All exams are proctored by the Voice Proctor® proctoring system. An overview of the system is [provided here](#) and it requires no training or learning curve. Grades of 70% or above are considered passing grades and qualify for recommended transfer credit.

The final exam is based on the video course modules. Additional resources detailed in this syllabus are helpful for background and for building greater understanding of the course materials.

Inquiries can be made through the LawShelf Contact form on our website by clicking the “email us” button that appears at the bottom of most LawShelf pages. Transcripts can be ordered via

Parchment, as detailed on our website.

Case Studies

Many LawShelf video courses include case studies. These do not necessarily teach new material but are meant to demonstrate how the materials covered in the course are applied by various courts. Concepts covered in the case studies are covered on the final exam; so watching the case studies is necessary before taking the exam. However, it is unnecessary to memorize the facts and details of the cases covered in these case studies.

Self-Quizzes

Video-course modules and case studies feature self-quizzes that consist of practice questions on the materials covered in the videos. These questions are presented for the benefit of the student and are **important to review before taking the final exam** because they are similar in style and substance to the questions on the final exam. These quizzes are not graded or monitored and there is no record of how students answer these questions. Students may answer these questions as many times as they like and are encouraged to keep re-taking the quizzes until they have mastered all the questions.

Study Guide

Introductory Videos

These videos provide background to help students better understand the main parts of the course, which are the video-course modules below.

Introduction to Alternative Dispute Resolution

<https://lawshelf.com/shortvideoscontentview/introduction-to-alternative-dispute-resolution>

Alternative Dispute Resolution Methods: Negotiation

<https://lawshelf.com/shortvideoscontentview/alternative-dispute-resolution-methods-negotiation>

Alternative Dispute Resolution Methods: Mediation

<https://lawshelf.com/shortvideoscontentview/alternative-dispute-resolution-mediation>

Alternative Dispute Resolution Methods: Arbitration

<https://lawshelf.com/shortvideoscontentview/arbitration-as-a-form-of-alternative-dispute-resolution>

Confirmation of an Arbitration Award

<https://lawshelf.com/shortvideoscontentview/confirmation-of-an-arbitration-award>

Courseware Readings

These courseware readings provide background to help students better understand the main parts of the course, which are the video-course modules below.

Read the following sections of “Foundations of Law” courseware:

<https://lawshelf.com/coursewareview>

Alternative Dispute Resolution: The following chapters (including all subchapters):

- Introduction to Forms of Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Negotiating Deals Absent Disputes, Settlement Agreements & Special Settlements
- Mediation - How It Works
- Mediation - Case Studies
- Arbitration
- Arbitration - Case Studies

Video Course Modules

These videos constitute the main part of the course and are they sources of the questions on the final exam.

Alternative Dispute Resolution Introduction

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursescontentview/alternative-dispute-resolution>

Introduction to Alternative Dispute Resolution - Module 1 of 5

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/introduction-to-alternative-dispute-resolution-module-1-of-5>

Facilitation and Settlement Conferences - Module 2 of 5

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/facilitation-and-settlement-conferences-module-2-of-5>

Mediation - Module 3 of 5

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/mediation-module-3-of-5>

Arbitration - Module 4 of 5

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/arbitration-module-4-of-5>

ADR Enforcement - Module 5 of 5

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/adr-enforcement-module-5-of-5>

Suggested Additional Reading

These materials enable students to achieve a deeper understanding of the course materials and in applying the course to real-life situations.

Read the following cases:

Foxgate Homeowners' Assn. v. Bramalea California, Inc. (2001)

<https://law.justia.com/cases/california/supreme-court/4th/26/1.html>

Lasalla v. Doctor's Assoc., 2005 Conn. Super. LEXIS 1 (2005)

<https://casetext.com/case/lasalla-v-doctors-associates-inc-no-cv-04-0085503-s-jan>

Gordon v. Amica Mutual Insurance Company, 2004 Conn. Super LEXIS 3409 (2004)

<https://casetext.com/case/gordon-v-amica-mutual-ins-co-no-cv-03-0830712-s-nov>

Sultar v. Merrill Lynch, 2004 Conn. Super. LEXIS 3003 (2004)

<https://casetext.com/case/sultar-v-lynch-no-cv-04-0527411-s-oct>

Ting v. AT&T, 319 F.3d 1126 (6th Cir. 2003)

<https://casetext.com/case/ting-v-att-2>

Green Tree Fin. Corp. v. Bazzle, 539 U.S. 444 (2003)

<https://www.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/02-634.ZO.html>