

<b>COURSE</b>	LAW 337 Dispute Resolution: Theory and Practice
<b>UNIT VALUE</b>	1.5 Units (3 hours of instruction per week)
<b>INSTRUCTOR</b>	Robert Lapper
<b>TERM OFFERED</b>	Spring 2025
<b>CLASS TIMES</b>	See Schedule
<b>PREREQUISITES / COREQUISITES</b>	None

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will examine the growth, theory and practice of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) processes in British Columbia. Processes studied will include negotiation, mediation, collaborative practice and community-based resolutions and their application in a variety of practice areas. As well, students will learn and practice dispute resolution skills in different processes in both face-to-face and online exercises

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

By the end of the course students will:

- Understand and apply critical thinking to basic conflict and dispute resolution theory and concepts
- Understand the mechanics and comparative advantages and disadvantages of most common ADR processes
- Know when and why specific processes might best support the interests and needs of individuals or communities involved in them
- Understand the skills needed to participate effectively as counsel in ADR processes
- Recognize the professional and ethical considerations applicable to ADR

### **SUMMARY OF SUBJECT MATTER**

This course will provide students with opportunities to examine and learn about:

- the history and current status of ADR in British Columbia
- key concepts and principles of conflict theory and of dispute resolution practice and critical analysis of these concepts and principles
- negotiation theory, strategies, and skills
- effective mediation advocacy and mediation skills
- professional and ethical rules applicable to dispute resolution practice
- special considerations in dispute resolution such as culture, power, safety, and formalization and enforcement of agreements

### **EXPECTED EVALUATION METHODOLOGY**

The subject matter in the course will be taught through lectures, class discussion, experiential exercises and guest speakers.

The evaluation components to assess student learning in the course will be

- Three assignments focused on ADR theory and practice: 90%
- Attendance and participation: 10%

*May 2024*

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<sup>1</sup> The information in this document is provided for course registration purposes only and is **subject to change**. More detailed course information about course content and evaluation will be provided upon the commencement of the course. Students seeking additional information about the course prior to its commencement may contact the instructor or, if no instructor is listed, the Law front office ([law.studentservices@uvic.ca](mailto:law.studentservices@uvic.ca)).