



Introduction to Mediation 6 Module Program

Module 6: Mediating Family Disputes

Course Content & Overview

Course Content:

- Assignments:
 - Recorded Lecture 1
 - Nature of conflict and conflict management theory and principles
 - Clarify how the mediation session will be conducted and settlement effected. Identify what parties and experts will be involved
 - Forming relationships and building rapport
 - Disclosure
 - Reality testing and independent legal advice
 - Establishing a mutual commitment to honest disclosure
 - Working with experts effectively
 - Recorded Lecture 2
 - Nature of conflict and conflict management theory and principles
 - Screening for appropriateness/determine if issues are covered by mediation
 - Remaining non-judgmental and separating mediator's personal values from issues under consideration
 - Assertiveness skills e.g., using "I" statements and encourage parties to be assertive
 - Designing and testing plans and arrangements
 - Confidentiality and caucusing and emphasizing the confidentiality principle and explaining its limitations
 - Drafting process notes, minutes of settlement, and other memoranda (engagement letter or contract, memorandum of understanding/settlement agreement)
 - Reading Materials to accompany Lecture 1
 - What You Don't Know Can Hurt You: The importance of family violence screening tools for family law practitioners
 - Reading Material to accompany Lecture 2
 - The 8 Keys to Resolving Family Conflict, by Diana Mercer
 - Tipping Points – Reasons Why Mediation Works in Complex Family Disputes, by Rikk Larsen
 - Mediation for resolving family disputes, by Marina Kamenecka-Usova

- Audio/Visual Materials to accompany Lecture 1
 - Why domestic violence victims don't leave, Leslie Morgan Steiner
 - "What I See" – A Domestic Violence Short Film
- Audio/Visual Materials to accompany Lecture 2
 - Family Mediation in Action, by RelScot
 - An Inside Look at Family Mediation, by Legal Aid BC
- Essay Assignment to accompany Lecture 1
 - What are some tools a mediator can use to screen for safety concerns? What plans can a mediator put in place to help provide safety to clients as they move through the mediation process?
 - 500 – 1,000 Words, 3 References, and post to the course's Slack channel
- Essay Assignment to accompany Lecture 2
 - Are all family disputes appropriate for mediation? If so, why? If not, which family disputes are inappropriate for mediation and why?
 - 500 – 1,000 Words, 3 References, and post to the course's Slack channel
- Reflective Journal Video to accompany Lecture 1
 - Record a 5-minute video of reflecting upon first section of learning materials
- Reflective Journal Video to accompany Lecture 2
 - Record a 5-minute video of reflecting upon second section of learning materials
- 1 Hour Roleplay Video Assignment
 - Using the Roleplay materials within the course, use some volunteers to practice the mediation process, recording it as a video.
 - Post to the course's Slack channel
- Written Reflective Journal
 - Write your reflections about the entirety of the course
 - Approximately 500 words and post to the course's Slack channel