

Course: Family Mediation			
Lecturers: Jelena Arsić, Ranka Vujović			
Course type: elective			
ECTS: 4			
Prerequisite: -			
Course Objective This course aims at introducing students with specifics of family mediation as an alternative method of resolving family disputes, acquiring relevant knowledge about theoretical, legal and practical aspects of family mediation and developing certain skills relevant in terms of conducting family mediation process in accordance with standards of good practice.			
Learning outcomes Students are familiar with international standards and relevant national regulations in the field of family mediation, understand the specifics of mediation when implemented in family relationships, and are educated to use basic skills of family mediators and motivated for further professional development in this field.			
Topics: <i>Lectures (weekly)</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The concept and historical development of family mediation 2. Legal framework for family mediation – international standards 3. Legal framework for family mediation – relevant national regulations 4. Family mediation fields (custody disputes, property disputes, maintenance disputes, other family disputes) 5. Rights, duties and responsibilities of family mediators 6. Criteria for assessing suitability of a family dispute for mediation 7. Methods of referring disputes to family mediation 8. Family mediation procedure 9. Communication skills in family mediation 10. Negotiation skills in family mediation 11. Involving children and other family members in family mediation 12. Implementation of the best interests of the child standard in family mediation 13. Legal effects of agreements reached in family mediation 14. Ethical issues and standards of conduct of family mediators 15. Family mediation and other methods of protection of family relationships <i>Practicum:</i> interactive work and discussion based on hypothetical cases; examples of communication skills and various negotiation styles in a family mediation process, simulations of cases suitable for mediation (custody disputes, property disputes, etc.).			
Recommended reading: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Džamonja Ignjatović, T. (ur.), Medijacija: principi, proces, primena, Centar za primenjenu psihologiju, Beograd, 2014 (odabrana poglavlja). 2. Žegarac, N. (ur.), Džamonja-Ignjatović, T. (ur.), Teorijske osnove medijacije – perspektive i doprinosi, Centar za primenjenu psihologiju, Beograd, 2009 (odabrana poglavlja). Folberg, J. et al. (ed.), Divorce and Family Mediation: Models, Techniques, and Applications, The Guilford Press, New York, 2004. 3. Haynes, M. J., The Fundamentals of Family Mediation, State University of New York Press, Albany, 1994. 4. Friedman, G. J., A Guide to Divorce Mediation, Workman Publishing, New York, 1993. 5. Arsić, J., „Families and Mediation: The Impact of Various Mediation Styles in Child Custody Cases”, Facta Universitatis, Series: Law and Politics, Vol. 14, No. 4 (2016). 6. Arsić, J., Medijacija u porodičnim sporovima: Specifičnosti postupka medijacije i uloge medijatora, u: Ponjavić, Z. (ur.), Novo porodično zakonodavstvo, Zbornik radova, Pravni fakultet Univerziteta u Kragujevcu, Centar za porodično pravo, 2006. 			
Number of lessons: 3 (a week)	Lectures: 2	Practicum: 1	
Teaching methods: Lectures, case studies, in-class discussions, family mediation role-plays			
Grading (max. points 100)			
Pre-exam obligations	Points	Final exam	Points
Class activity	10	Oral exam	60
Participation in role-plays	10		
Report on a chosen topic	20		