

Alternative Dispute Resolution

ED 644, Arcadia University

Fall, 2006

Kuch 205, Wednesday Evenings 7:10-10:00 p.m.

David Keller Trevaskis, J.D., M.A.T.

(215) 885-1610/717-571-7414

trevaskd@arcadia.edu/david@leap-kids.com/www.leap-kids.com

CONFLICT JOURNAL

Assignment Overview

The purpose of the Conflict Journal is for each student to reflect on the conflict in his or her personal and professional life through the prism of the course materials, presentations and discussions. Journals should be regularly kept with at least weekly reflections entered. The journals should be professionally maintained, but may be informal in style and tone. Although referenced material must be footnoted in a manner that allows the instructor to find the references, an informal approach is allowed (for example, citing the text as “Folger” and providing a page number is sufficient reference for material from the text). The instructor asks students to regularly, electronically, send him their journals. The instructor will provide feedback on the journals as received. A student may ask for his or her journal to be reviewed at any time by simply sending the journal electronically to the instructor, but all **students must have their first journal sent to the instructor by no later than 9/5/06**. Since the journal counts for a significant portion (30%) of the course grade, regular instructor review of the journals should ensure the quality of the journal projects and relieve any student concerns about grades.

The first journal entry is the only entry with required content. This journal entry builds on the quick self-portraits presented in the first class; please include:

Your Name and a brief description of your family circumstances (to the extent that you are comfortable providing such information);

Brief education and work history to current job and school status;

Reason for taking the course; and

Descriptions of five conflicts, one each from today, from the past week, from the past month, from the past year and from your entire life, with the description including who was involved in the conflict, what you perceived the conflict to be about, and details of the result of the conflict with an evaluation of both the conflict process and result (the conflict may be your own or someone else’s conflict that you observed). Please also reflect on the first class and share your thoughts and concerns from this experience.

Students always ask me about the length of their journal submissions. My response is to paraphrase Lincoln, who, when asked, “How long should a man’s legs be?” responded, “Long enough to reach the floor!” Thus, the length of your journal should be long enough to reach the floor. For anyone who needs certainty, weekly produce about two pages, single spaced, 12 point font in a font such as New Times Roman, 1 inch margins.