

**POST-GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN ALTERNATIVE
DISPUTE RESOLUTION (PGDADR)**

(SESSION 2025-26 ONWARDS)

**General Rules, Examination, Regulation and
Course**



**Chotanagpur Law College, Ranchi,
Jharkhand**

About the Programme:

The Post Graduate Diploma in Alternative Dispute Resolution (PGDADR) offered by Chotanagpur Law College, Ranchi, is a rigorous and practice-oriented academic programme tailored for law graduates, professionals, judges, academicians, civil servants, corporate executives, and policy enthusiasts seeking specialized training in dispute resolution mechanisms outside the traditional court system.

In a world where litigation often leads to time-consuming, adversarial, and costly outcomes, Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) has emerged as a preferred route for ensuring timely, cost-effective, and consensual resolution of conflicts. With globalization, rising commercial complexity, cross-border transactions, and increasing strain on conventional courts, ADR has taken center stage in both public and private dispute resolution systems globally.

This one-year diploma course is designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of ADR theory, mechanisms, laws, institutions, and best practices, blending legal analysis with negotiation psychology and communication strategies. It offers a multidisciplinary and comparative perspective, combining Indian and international legal developments, with a focus on the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, Legal Services Authorities Act, Singapore Convention on Mediation, and UNCITRAL Model Laws.

The programme emphasizes experiential learning, including mock arbitrations, negotiation workshops, mediation roleplays, and writing of arbitration awards or conciliation agreements. Students will gain practical exposure to institutional ADR frameworks, including arbitral tribunals, mediation centers, Lok Adalats, and sector-specific ADR mechanisms (commercial, matrimonial, labor, environmental, and international trade disputes).

Duration: 1 Year (The program will consist of two semesters comprising six modules with Project, Dissertation or Internship.)

Mode: Online / Offline / Hybrid

Eligibility: Graduation in Law / IT / Management / Equivalent

Objectives:

The PG Diploma in Alternative Dispute Resolution (PGDADR) aims to fulfill the following academic and professional objectives:

1. To provide foundational and advanced knowledge of the principles, processes, and legal framework of alternative dispute resolution, including arbitration, mediation, conciliation, negotiation, and Lok Adalat.
2. To equip learners with practical skills in communication, persuasion, problem-solving, and legal drafting necessary for effective dispute resolution.
3. To develop a thorough understanding of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 (as amended), and its interplay with international instruments like the UNCITRAL Model Law, the New York Convention, and the Singapore Convention on Mediation.

4. To familiarize students with procedural aspects of ADR mechanisms, including arbitral proceedings, mediation sessions, conciliation techniques, award writing, and enforceability of settlements.
5. To enhance awareness of institutional and non-institutional ADR mechanisms, including their roles, structures, and functions at the national and international levels.
6. To explore the ethical, cultural, and psychological dimensions of ADR practice in diverse socio-legal contexts.
7. To foster analytical and research capabilities through dissertation, field projects, and internships in dispute resolution bodies, law firms, or judicial institutions.
8. To encourage the use of ADR in specialized areas, such as commercial contracts, family disputes, labor relations, environmental conflicts, consumer protection, and international trade.
9. To introduce learners to emerging trends, such as Online Dispute Resolution (ODR), hybrid mechanisms, and cross-border arbitration.
10. To prepare professionals for various roles as mediators, arbitrators, conciliators, ADR consultants, court-annexed mediators, or dispute resolution policy advisors.

Assessment of Students' Performance and Scheme of Examination Pass Percentage & Promotional Criteria:

1. Assessment of student's performance shall consist of 70 marks (End Semester Written Examination) and 30 marks (Internal Assessment).
2. The duration of the End Semester Written Examination shall be three hours for 70 marks.
3. For internal assessment of 30 marks, one Internal Test + Assignment + Presentation + Viva shall be in each course in each semester.
4. Internal assessment of each paper shall be evaluated by a panel of three teachers of the department. For each paper panel is to be formed by Principal accordingly.
5. Dissertation / Project/ Internship will carry 70 marks.
6. Viva-voce exam will carry 30 marks Viva-voce shall be held soon after the Second semester.
7. In each paper 30 marks shall be reserved for award on the bases of continuous internal assessment of the student in the class room. The HOD will notify information regarding each internal assessment at least one week prior of the presentation with consultation to the teacher concern. All awards of marks will be verified by the HOD and will be send to exam controller accordingly.
8. The criteria for Internal assessment for each paper will be as follows – Internal Test- 10 marks
9. Assignment with presentation – 10 marks Class room seminar and viva – 10 marks

Attendance

The student whose attendance is less than 75% will not be allowed to appear in the end semester examination. Principal may permit a student to appear in examination by relaxation of 25% attendance in special conditions such as;

- Participation in NCC/NSS camps duly supported by a certificate from competent authority.
- Participation in College Team (S) Games or Inter State Tournament (S) duly supported a certificate from competent authority.
- Participation in any of the co-curricular activity organized by College duly certified by competent authority.
- Prolonged illness duly certified by superintendent/CMO of government hospital or registered medical practitioners/hospitals.

Note: The Principal shall have power to condone any deficiency of attendance for cogent reasons.

End Semester Examination

There shall be an end semester examination at the end of the I and II semesters. The semester examination will be held every year normally in December and May or on the dates declared in the academic calendar of the College. A student proceeding to appear in the end semester examination will submit through the Head of the Department his/her application on the prescribed form along with the required examination fee, etc. to the Registrar of the College.

Every student will have to appear in three & two respective theory papers examinations in the I and II, semesters.

In the II semester, every student will be allotted one dissertation work in lieu of Viva-voce Exam.

Allotment of The Dissertation

Allotment of the dissertation will be done by a committee comprising of the Head of the Department. The Proposal for dissertation shall be submitted by candidate through head of department.

Candidate shall be required to submit the Dissertation at least two weeks before the commencement of Second Semester Examination. Prior of submission of dissertation the students shall make a pre-submission seminar in the College. Seminar shall be opened to all faculty members, research scholar and other students of the College.

The candidate shall be required to secure at least 50% marks in the Dissertation to pass the Examination.

The maximum number of students enrolled for dissertation under one teacher will be as follows-
Assistant Professor – 05

Associate Professor – 08

Professor – 10

Full time teacher of the College is authorized for dissertation guidance. If there is non-availability of full time teachers in the College, rest of all student will be supervised by HOD/ principal accordingly.

Viva-Voce Examination:

The Viva Voce Examination shall be conducted by a Board of Examiners.

The Board shall consist of three members; one member shall be a Professor/Associate Professor as external member of any other university or college. The head of the department (H.O.D.) shall be a member of the board and one Professor/Associate professor of the college as internal examiner. The internal examiner shall be appointed for every year by rotation.

The Viva-Voce Examination shall carry 30 marks. The external examiner shall evaluate the candidate out of 20 maximum marks and two examiners shall evaluate out of 10 maximum marks each.

Candidate shall be required to secure at least 50% marks in the Viva-voce to pass the Examination.

Grad Point and SGPA, CGPA Calculations:

Assessment as per college policy relating to implementation of choice-based credit system (CBCS) to all the programs offered at Chotanagpur College.

Rules of Promotion:

A student can not to be promoted to next semester if he/she fails in up to the maximum two courses (papers) in first semester. The paper/papers in which a student fail shall be considered as back paper. In no case a student having back in more than two papers can be promoted to next semester and will be treated to have year back. In case of year back, he/she have to take readmission by paying approved fee in same year after the recommendation of Principal/HOD. After readmission students have following options;

1. He/ She can choose to pass all the papers of the academic year.
2. He/ She can opt to pass the papers in which he/she has failed.
3. Students will have to submit their choices/options at the time of readmission.
4. No repeat attempt is allowed to pass for internal assessment only.
5. He/ She has to repeat complete course i.e. theory and internal assessment both.

Course Modules:

The course is structured into two semesters, covering core concepts and applied aspects of Alternative Dispute Resolution.

Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs):

Upon successful completion of the Post-Graduate Diploma in Alternative Dispute Resolution (PGDADR), learners will be able to:

1. Comprehend the core principles and legal framework of various ADR mechanisms such as arbitration, mediation, conciliation, negotiation, and Lok Adalat within national and international contexts.
2. Apply statutory and treaty-based instruments including the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996; Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987; UNCITRAL Model Law; New York and Singapore Conventions in resolving disputes.
3. Demonstrate procedural and practical skills in drafting arbitration clauses, mediation agreements, conciliation settlements, and arbitral awards, while effectively navigating ADR processes.
4. Analyze and resolve legal conflicts through cost-effective, consensual, and timely ADR strategies, incorporating ethical considerations and sector-specific applications.
5. Conduct independent legal research, engage with ADR institutions, and critically assess dispute resolution policies, integrating interdisciplinary perspectives for socially responsive and professionally sound practice.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs):**Semester I:**

- Understand the origin, scope, and evolution of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms.
- Explain the statutory framework governing arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and Lok Adalats in India.
- Analyze the provisions and procedures under the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996.
- Demonstrate practical understanding of negotiation and mediation techniques through roleplays and simulations.
- Evaluate the role of ADR in enhancing access to justice and reducing judicial burden.

Semester II:

- Examine international frameworks including UNCITRAL Model Law, New York Convention, and Singapore Convention on Mediation.
- Compare global ADR practices across jurisdictions like USA, UK, Singapore, and India.
- Apply ADR strategies to specific dispute areas including commercial, labor, family, and public interest cases.
- Identify ethical and procedural challenges in ADR such as neutrality, confidentiality, and enforceability.
- Conduct legal research or fieldwork in ADR and produce well-structured project reports or dissertations.

Semester I: Foundations and Techniques of ADR

S.No.	Course Code	Course Name	L-IA-P	Total Credit
1.	PGDADR 101	Introduction to ADR and Indian Legal Framework	5-2-0	7
2.	PGDADR 102	Arbitration Law and Practice (Domestic & International)	5-2-0	7
3.	PGDADR 103	Mediation, Negotiation, Conciliation, and Lok Adalat Systems	5-2-0	7
Total Credit in Semester I				21

Semester II: ADR in Action: Contemporary Issues and Applications

S.No.	Course Code	Course Name	L-IA-P	Total Credit
1.	PGDADR 201	International ADR Instruments and Comparative Legal Models	5-2-0	7
2.	PGDADR 202	ADR in Commercial, Labor, Family, and Public Disputes	5-2-0	7
3.	PGDADR 203	Project / Dissertation / Internship & Viva	5-2-0	7
Total Credit in Semester II				21
The PG Diploma programme comprises a total of six papers, three papers in Semester I and three papers in Semester II. Each paper carries 7 credits, making the total credit requirement for the programme 42 credits.				

Semester I

Paper I – PGDADR 101

INTRODUCTION TO ADR AND INDIAN LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Duration: 40 hours (including lectures, seminars, and assessments)

Credits: 7

Introduction:

In an era of legal transformation focused on speedy, cost-effective, and amicable resolution of disputes, Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) offers robust mechanisms to reduce the burden on courts and provide access to justice. This paper introduces students to the historical evolution, core philosophies, and types of ADR systems recognized in India. Emphasis is placed on statutory recognition of ADR under Indian law, particularly the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, and the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. The course also explores the institutionalization of ADR, court-annexed mediation, and the constitutional context of dispute resolution in India.

Course Outcomes (C.O.):

1. To understand the origin, evolution, and types of ADR mechanisms.
2. To comprehend the legal and constitutional framework supporting ADR in India.
3. To analyze statutory provisions related to arbitration, mediation, conciliation, negotiation, and Lok Adalats.
4. To evaluate the institutional structure and role of courts, tribunals, and legal service authorities in promoting ADR.

Program Outcomes:

1. To equip learners with a foundational understanding of ADR as a legal and justice delivery system.
2. To develop awareness of the legislative and procedural mechanisms supporting ADR in Indian jurisprudence.
3. To build the capacity to identify appropriate ADR mechanisms for different legal disputes.
4. To prepare students for further practical training or specialization in arbitration, mediation, and negotiation.

Syllabus:

Unit I: Foundations of Alternative Dispute Resolution

- Meaning, philosophy, and scope of ADR
- Evolution and growth of ADR in India and globally
- Types of ADR: Arbitration, Mediation, Conciliation, Negotiation, Lok Adalat
- Importance of ADR in legal pluralism and participatory justice
- Comparative advantages of ADR over litigation
- Challenges to effective ADR implementation

Suggested Readings:**Books:**

- G.B. Reddy, *Alternative Dispute Resolution*, Gogia Law Agency, 2023 – Chapter 1 & 2 on ADR evolution and types.
- Sriram Panchu, *Settle for More: Mediation for Indian Needs*, LexisNexis, 2020 – Introduction and philosophical background.

Articles:

- Justice M. Jagannadha Rao, “ADR: The Indian Perspective”, ICADR Journal, 2003.
- Boulle, L., “The Globalization of Mediation: Diversity, Trends, and Challenges”, Commonwealth Law Bulletin, 2012.

Case Laws:

- K.K. Modi v. K.N. Modi, (1998) 3 SCC 573 – Conditions for valid arbitration agreements.
- Booz Allen and Hamilton Inc. v. SBI Home Finance Ltd., (2011) 5 SCC 532 – Arbitrability of disputes.

Reports:

- Law Commission of India, 129th Report on Urban Litigation and Mediation, 1988 – Initial call for institutional mediation in India.
- UNCITRAL, ADR Terminology and Recommendations, UN Doc. A/CN.9/WG.II/WP.139, 2003.

Unit II: Constitutional and Legislative Framework for ADR in India

- Article 39-A: Equal access to justice
- Article 14 and 21: Due process and fairness in dispute resolution
- Section 89 CPC: Court-referred ADR
- Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 – Legal aid and Lok Adalats
- National and State Legal Services Authorities (NALSA/SALSA)
- Constitutional vision and judicial pronouncements supporting ADR

Suggested Readings:**Books:**

- Avtar Singh, *Law of Arbitration and Conciliation*, Eastern Book Company, 12th Edition, 2024.
- Ratanlal & Dhirajlal, *The Constitution of India*, LexisNexis, 2023, Relevant chapters on Articles 14, 21, and 39A.

Articles:

- Justice R.V. Raveendran, “Mediation – Its Relevance and Importance in Justice Delivery System”, SCC Journal, 2010.
- Tripathi, H., “ADR and Constitutional Values”, NLUJ Law Review, 2022.

Case Laws:

- Afcons Infrastructure Ltd. v. Cherian Varkey Construction Co., (2010) 8 SCC 24 – Interpretation of Section 89 CPC.
- Salem Advocate Bar Association v. Union of India, (2003) 1 SCC 49 – Legitimacy of ADR through statutory amendment.
- Justice K.S. Puttaswamy v. Union of India, (2017) 10 SCC 1 – Right to privacy and its relation to consensual dispute settlement.

Reports:

- Ministry of Law and Justice, Mediation Bill, 2021
- NALSA Website Reports and Guidelines – <https://nalsa.gov.in/>

Unit III: Institutionalization and Practice of ADR in India

- Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 – Structure, scope, and reforms
- Types of arbitration: Ad hoc vs. institutional
- Role of the judiciary in promoting ADR: Key judgments
- Court-annexed mediation – Mediation Centres in High Courts and District Courts
- Role of Bar Councils, law schools, and NGOs in ADR advocacy

Suggested Readings:**Books:**

- O.P. Tewari, The Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, Allahabad Law Agency, New Edition, 2023.
- R. Vakul Sharma, Justice Through ADR, Universal Law Publishing 2014.

Articles:

- B.N. Srikrishna, “Institutional Arbitration in India: Need for Reform”, NLU Jodhpur Journal, 2018.
- P.C. Markanda, “The Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Acts: Transforming the Landscape of Indian Arbitration”, Arbitration Brief, 2020.

Case Laws:

- Bharat Aluminium Co. v. Kaiser Aluminium Technical Services Inc., (2012) 9 SCC 552 – BALCO case on seat and jurisdiction.
- Centrotech Minerals v. Hindustan Copper Ltd., (2017) 2 SCC 228 – Two-tier arbitration validity.

Reports:

- B.N. Srikrishna Committee Report on Institutional Arbitration in India, 2017.
- Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts Act, 2015 (selected provisions on pre-litigation mediation).

Unit IV: Lok Adalat and Gram Nyayalayas

- Historical development and concept of Lok Adalat
- Jurisdiction, powers, and procedures of Lok Adalats
- Permanent Lok Adalat (PLAs) and public utility services
- Lok Adalats under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987
- Role of Gram Nyayalayas in promoting rural ADR
- Success stories and case studies of community-level dispute resolution

Suggested Readings:**Books:**

- N.V. Paranjape, Legal Aid and Lok Adalats in India, Central Law Agency, 2019.
- G.B. Reddy, Lok Adalats, Legal Aid and ADR, Gogia Law Agency, 2013.

Articles:

- S.P. Sathe, “Access to Justice and Legal Aid: Constitutional and International Dimensions”, Journal of the Indian Law Institute, 2002.

Case Laws:

- State of Punjab v. Jalour Singh, (2008) 2 SCC 660 – Scope and finality of Lok Adalat awards.
- Moti Ram v. Ashok Kumar, (2011) 1 SCC 466 – Powers of Lok Adalat and procedural flexibility.

Reports:

- Ministry of Law and Justice, Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 – Implementation Status Reports

Unit V: Contemporary Debates and Future of ADR in India

- Draft Mediation Bill, 2021 – Overview and objectives
- Role of technology and Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) platforms
- Role of ADR in commercial, family, and consumer disputes
- Challenges of enforcement, neutrality, and capacity-building in ADR
- Judicial activism and ADR jurisprudence
- Future directions for strengthening ADR in India

Suggested Readings:**Books:**

- Sriram Panchu, *Settle for More*, LexisNexis, 2022.
- A. Chawla, *Online Dispute Resolution in India: Development & Challenges*, Thomson Reuters, 2022.

Articles:

- Sudhir Krishnaswamy, “Digital Justice and ODR in India”, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, 2021.
- Ghosh, Arunima, “Draft Mediation Bill, 2021 – A Step Forward or More of the Same?”, IndiaCorpLaw Blog, 2022.

Case Laws:

- Shri Ravi Chandran v. Union of India, (2010) 1 SCC 174 – International mediation and child custody.
- Haresh Dayaram Thakur v. State of Maharashtra, (2000) 6 SCC 179 – Voluntariness and fairness in ADR.

Reports:

- Draft Mediation Bill, 2021 (available at PRS Legislative Research: <https://prsindia.org>)
- NITI Aayog Working Paper on Strengthening Dispute Resolution in India, 2021
- Report of the Mediation Task Force – Law Ministry, 2022

Recommendations:

1. Laurence Boulle, *Mediation: Skills and Strategies*, LexisNexis, 2021.
2. H. W. Arthurs, *Access to Justice: Theory and Practice*, OUP Canada.
3. N.L. Rajah, “ADR in India: The Legal and Institutional Framework”, *Indian Bar Review*, 2021.

4. Catherine Rogers, “The Future of Dispute Resolution in India”, *Penn State Law Review*, Vol. 117.
5. Law Commission Report No. 222 (2009) – “Need for Justice Dispensation Through ADR”; <https://lawcommissionofindia.nic.in/reports/report222.pdf>
6. <https://nalsa.gov.in/> includes legal aid and Lok Adalat resources
7. Vidhi Centre's ADR Analysis – Research on ADR reforms in India; <https://vidhilegalpolicy.in>

Evaluation Scheme:

- Internal Assessment (30 Marks):
2 written assignments (10 marks), 1 presentation (10 marks) and Class participation/ seminar (10 marks)
- End Semester Examination (70 Marks):
Section A: Short answer questions (30 marks)
Section B: Analytical/Essay-type questions (40 marks)

Paper II – PGDADR 102

ARBITRATION LAW AND PRACTICE (DOMESTIC & INTERNATIONAL)

Duration: 40 hours (including lectures, seminars, and assessments)

Credits: 7

Introduction:

Arbitration has emerged as a vital method of dispute resolution, particularly in commercial, civil, and cross-border matters. This course offers a comprehensive overview of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 (as amended), global arbitration frameworks, procedural elements of domestic and international arbitration, and practical drafting of arbitration clauses and awards. It prepares students for both academic research and practical engagement with arbitral forums in India and abroad.

Course Outcomes (C.O.):

1. To understand the statutory and conceptual framework of arbitration in India.
2. To analyze arbitration processes including appointment of arbitrators, conduct of proceedings, and award enforcement.
3. To evaluate international frameworks such as UNCITRAL Model Law and the New York Convention.
4. To apply knowledge through case study analysis and draft basic arbitral documents.

Program Outcomes:

1. To build competence in interpreting and using the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996.
2. To develop skills in procedural and institutional aspects of arbitration.
3. To prepare learners for arbitration practice, advisory roles, and policy-level engagement.
4. To promote awareness of comparative and international arbitration mechanisms.

Syllabus:

Unit I: Overview of Arbitration and Legal Framework in India

- Historical evolution of arbitration in India
- Scope and application of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996
- Key amendments (2015, 2019, and 2021)
- Definitions: arbitration, arbitral tribunal, award
- Classification: ad hoc vs. institutional arbitration
- Arbitrability of disputes: what can and cannot be referred

Suggested Readings:

Books:

- Avtar Singh, Law of Arbitration and Conciliation, Eastern Book Company, 12th Edition, 2024
- S.K. Chawla, Law of Arbitration and Conciliation, LexisNexis, 2020

Articles:

- G.C. Bharuka, “Revisiting the Indian Arbitration Regime Post-2015 Amendment”, SCC Journal, 2016
- Born, Gary, “The New York Convention’s Impact on Indian Arbitration”, ICCA Bulletin, 2019

Case Laws:

- Booz Allen & Hamilton v. SBI Home Finance, (2011) 5 SCC 532
- Ayyasamy v. A. Paramasivam, (2016) 10 SCC 386

Reports:

- 246th Law Commission Report (2014) – Amendments to the Arbitration Act
- B.N. Srikrishna Committee Report on Institutional Arbitration in India (2017)

Unit II: Composition, Jurisdiction, and Conduct of Arbitral Proceedings

- Appointment, challenge, and termination of arbitrators
- Jurisdiction of arbitral tribunals – Kompetenz-Kompetenz
- Interim measures by courts and tribunals
- Conduct of proceedings: statement of claim, defense, evidence, hearings
- Seat vs. venue of arbitration

Suggested Readings:**Books:**

- O.P. Tewari, The Arbitration and Conciliation Act, Allahabad Law Agency
- Redfern & Hunter, Law and Practice of International Commercial Arbitration, Oxford

Articles:

- Ashwinie Kumar Bansal, “Kompetenz-Kompetenz in Indian Arbitration”, NALSAR Law Review, 2020
- Malhotra, O.P., “The Role of Courts in Arbitration: Indian Experience”, NLIU Law Journal, 2019

Case Laws:

- SBP & Co. v. Patel Engineering Ltd., (2005) 8 SCC 618
- Chloro Controls India Pvt. Ltd. v. Severn Trent Water Purification Inc., (2013) 1 SCC 641

Reports:

- Law Commission of India – 246th Report (Chapter on Tribunal Powers)

Unit III: Arbitral Award – Making, Enforcement, and Challenge

- Types and forms of arbitral awards
- Essentials of a valid award
- Time limits for awards
- Correction, interpretation, and additional awards
- Challenge to awards: Section 34 (Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996)
- Enforcement under Section 36 (Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996)
- Stay, public policy, and finality

Suggested Readings:**Books:**

- P.C. Markanda, Law Relating to Arbitration and Conciliation, LexisNexis, First Edition, 2016.

Articles:

- Shashank Garg, “Public Policy as a Ground for Setting Aside Awards”, ICCA India Bulletin, 2018
- Prabhash Ranjan, “Enforcing Foreign Arbitral Awards in India”, Jindal Global Law Review, 2020

Case Laws:

- ONGC Ltd. v. Saw Pipes Ltd., (2003) 5 SCC 705 – Public policy interpretation
- Fuerst Day Lawson Ltd. v. Jindal Exports Ltd., (2001) 6 SCC 356
- MMTCL Ltd. v. Vedanta Ltd., (2019) 4 SCC 163

Reports:

- Report on Amendments to Section 34, Ministry of Law and Justice (2019)

Unit IV: International Commercial Arbitration and Enforcement

- Definition and scope of international commercial arbitration (ICA)
- UNCITRAL Model Law (1985 & 2006 versions)
- New York Convention, 1958 – Recognition and enforcement
- Geneva Convention, 1927 – Historical overview
- Institutional arbitration: ICC, LCIA, SIAC, ICSID, DIAC
- India’s role and challenges in international arbitration

Suggested Readings:**Books:**

- Gary B. Born, International Commercial Arbitration, Kluwer Law International, Vol. 1, 2009.
- R. Doak Bishop, International Arbitration in the Asia-Pacific, JurisNet LLC, 2nd Edition, 2017.

Articles:

- Sundra Rajoo, “UNCITRAL Model Law and Asia’s Growth in Arbitration”, Asian Int’l Arbitration Journal, 2022.
- Rishi Gulati, “The Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards in India”, Cambridge Arbitration Review, 2020.

Case Laws:

- Bharat Aluminium Co. v. Kaiser Aluminium (BALCO), (2012) 9 SCC 552
- Venture Global Engg. v. Satyam Computer, (2008) 4 SCC 190
- Renuagar Power Co. Ltd. v. General Electric Co., (1994) Supp (1) SCC 644

Reports:

- UNCITRAL Model Law (1985, 2006)

Unit V: Institutional Developments and Emerging Trends in Arbitration

- Rise of institutional arbitration in India (DIAC, MCIA, ICA)
- Emergency arbitration and fast-track procedures
- Role of technology and Online Dispute Resolution (ODR)
- Arbitrator ethics and neutrality
- Third-party funding and transparency
- Future directions for India as an international arbitration hub

Suggested Readings:

Books:

- Anirudh Krishnan & Shilpa Shah, *Institutional Arbitration in India*, LexisNexis, 2018
- R. Abhishek, *Online Dispute Resolution: Indian and Global Perspective*, 2021

Articles:

- Neeti Shikha, “ODR and the Future of Arbitration in India”, *NLUJ Law Review*, 2021
- Niti Aayog Report, “Strengthening Dispute Resolution in India”, 2021

Case Laws:

- Amazon.com NV Investment Holdings v. Future Retail Ltd., (2021) SCC OnLine SC 557
- Avitel Post Studioz Ltd. v. HSBC PI Holdings, (2020) 4 SCC 1

Reports:

- Ministry of Law and Justice, Draft Arbitration Council of India Rules, 2020
- ICCA Task Force Reports on Third-Party Funding and Transparency

Recommendations:

1. Julian D.M. Lew et al., *Comparative International Commercial Arbitration*, Kluwer Law.
2. Ashwinie Kumar Bansal, *Law of Arbitration and Conciliation*, Universal Law Publishing, 2021.
3. Rishi Gulati, “India and International Arbitration: A Developing Relationship”, *Cambridge International Law Journal*, 2022.
4. IBA, “Best Practices for International Arbitration”, *IBA Arbitration Committee*.
5. UNCITRAL Model Law (1985, amended 2006);
https://uncitral.un.org/en/texts/arbitration/modellaw/commercial_arbitration
6. SIAC Rules and Handbook – International arbitration institution frequently used in India;
<https://www.siac.org.sg/>
7. Law Commission of India Report No. 246 (2014);
<https://lawcommissionofindia.nic.in/reports/Report246.pdf>

Evaluation Scheme:

- Internal Assessment (30 Marks):
2 written assignments (10 marks), 1 presentation (10 marks) and Class participation/seminar (10 marks)
- End Semester Examination (70 Marks):
Section A: Short answer questions (30 marks)
Section B: Analytical/Essay-type questions (40 marks)

Paper III – PGDADR 103

MEDIATION, NEGOTIATION, CONCILIATION, AND LOK ADALAT SYSTEMS

Duration: 40 hours (including lectures, seminars, and assessments)

Credits: 7

Introduction:

This integrated paper covers the foundational and advanced aspects of consensual dispute resolution mechanisms: mediation, negotiation, conciliation, and Lok Adalats. It highlights the legal framework, theoretical principles, and practical skills needed to engage in these non-adversarial methods. Special emphasis is placed on India's statutory and institutional mechanisms, including the Mediation Act, 2023, and Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

Course Outcomes (C.O.):

1. To understand the principles and processes of mediation, negotiation, conciliation, and Lok Adalats.
2. To examine legal frameworks and key legislative provisions.
3. To develop skills in conducting sessions and drafting settlements.
4. To assess evolving institutional mechanisms and digital trends in dispute resolution.

Program Outcomes:

1. To foster understanding of cooperative dispute resolution mechanisms.
2. To prepare students for practical application of ADR strategies.
3. To build ethical, communication, and analytical skills essential in ADR.
4. To enable students to contribute meaningfully to dispute resolution programs and institutions.

Syllabus

Unit I: Mediation and Conciliation – Concepts and Legal Framework:

- Meaning and principles of mediation and conciliation
- Comparative features with litigation and arbitration
- Legal framework: Part III of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996; The Mediation Act, 2023
- Enforceability of settlement agreements
- Role of courts and Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee (MCPC)

Suggested Readings:

Books:

- Sriram Panchu, *Settle for More: Mediation for Indian Needs*, LexisNexis, 2020
- G.B. Reddy, *Alternative Dispute Resolution*, Gogia Law Agency, 2023

Articles:

- Carrie Menkel-Meadow, "The Many Ways of Mediation", Harvard Negotiation Law Review, 2006

Unit II: Negotiation – Theory, Skills, and Application:

- Types and styles of negotiation: distributive vs. integrative
- Core concepts: BATNA, ZOPA, interests vs. positions
- Role of communication, culture, and ethics
- Practical negotiation exercises and drafting techniques

Suggested Readings:

Books:

- Roger Fisher & William Ury, Getting to Yes, Penguin Books, 2012
- Roy J. Lewicki, Essentials of Negotiation, McGraw Hill, 7th Ed., 2021

Articles:

- Noam Ebner, "Negotiation is Changing", ADR Times, 2022
- ABA Journal, "Negotiation Ethics for the 21st Century", 2020

Unit III: Lok Adalats – Access to Justice and Legal Empowerment:

- Origin, structure, and jurisdiction under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987
- Types of Lok Adalats: regular, permanent, mobile
- Nature of awards and procedural simplicity
- Role of NALSA, SLSAs, and DLSAs
- Challenges and successes in delivery of justice

Suggested Readings:

Books:

- S.S. Sharma, Legal Services, Lok Adalat and Para Legal Services, Central Law Agency, 2nd Edition, 2006.

Articles:

- Law Commission of India, 131st Report on Lok Adalats (1988)
- M.P. Singh, "Lok Adalats and Access to Justice in India", *ILI Law Review*, 2020

Case Laws:

- State of Punjab v. Jalour Singh, (2008) 2 SCC 660
- Bhargavi Constructions v. Kothakapu Muthyram Reddy, (2018) SCC OnLine SC 2944

Unit IV: Institutional and Court-annexed Mediation :

- Role of Mediation Centres in High Courts and District Courts
- Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee (MCPC)
- Role of NALSA and legal services institutions
- Private mediation institutions and community mediation models
- Mediation training and accreditation in India (MCPC guidelines, IIAM, CAMP)

Suggested Readings:

Books:

- Justice D.K. Jain, Court-annexed Mediation in India, Universal Law Publishing, 2010.

Articles:

- BCI Journal on Legal Education and Mediation Training; <https://nalsa.gov.in/https://main.sci.gov.in/committees/mcpc>

Unit V: Contemporary Issues and Online Mediation:

- Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) and its adoption in India
- Technology in mediation: confidentiality and security
- Mediation in commercial, family, and consumer disputes
- Cross-border mediation and the Singapore Convention on Mediation
- Challenges in implementation of the Mediation Act, 2023

Suggested Readings:**Books:**

- Arunima Ghosh, Digital Mediation and ODR in India, EBC, 2023
- P.C. Rao & William Sheffield, Alternative Dispute Resolution: What it is and How it Works, LexisNexis, 1st Edition, 1st Vol., 2015.

Articles:

- Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, "Bringing Mediation to the Mainstream", 2021
- UNCITRAL Guide on the Singapore Convention on Mediation (2019)

Reports:

- NITI Aayog Report on Online Dispute Resolution (2021); <http://efaidnbmnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.niti.gov.in/sites/default/files/2023-03/Designing-The-Future-of-Dispute-Resolution-The-ODR-Policy-Plan-for-India.pdf>
- UN Convention on International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation (Singapore Convention, 2019); https://uncitral.un.org/en/texts/mediation/conventions/international_settlement_agreements

Recommendations:

1. R. Menon, "Mediation as a Judicial Reform Tool in India", *The Hindu Centre for Politics and Public Policy*, 2022.
2. Madhu Mehra, "Gender, Power and Mediation: A Critical Perspective", *EPW*, Vol. 54(3), 2019.
3. Singapore Convention on Mediation (UNCITRAL); https://uncitral.un.org/en/texts/mediation/conventions/international_settlement_agreements
4. MCPC (Supreme Court Mediation Portal); <https://main.sci.gov.in/committees/mcpc>

Evaluation Scheme:

- Internal Assessment (30 Marks):
2 written assignments (10 marks), 1 presentation (10 marks) and Class participation/seminar (10 marks)

- End Semester Examination (70 Marks):
Section A: Short answer questions (30 marks)
Section B: Analytical/Essay-type questions (40 marks)

Semester II

Paper I – PGDADR 201

INTERNATIONAL ADR INSTRUMENTS AND COMPARATIVE LEGAL MODELS

Duration: 40 hours (including lectures, seminars, and assessments)

Credits: 7

Introduction:

Introduction: This paper aims to provide an in-depth understanding of global ADR instruments and practices. It covers international treaties, model laws, conventions, and the legal frameworks governing arbitration, mediation, and conciliation in key jurisdictions. Students will analyze comparative legal models, institutional mechanisms, and cross-border enforcement regimes. The course prepares learners for practice in international dispute resolution and global legal consultancy.

Course Outcomes (C.O.):

1. To understand and interpret international treaties and model laws governing ADR.
2. To analyze comparative legal systems and institutional practices in ADR.
3. To assess the enforcement of foreign arbitral and mediated awards.
4. To evaluate India's position in the global ADR landscape.

Program Outcomes:

1. To promote familiarity with UNCITRAL, ICSID, ICC, LCIA, and other global instruments.
2. To build analytical skills in comparative legal reasoning.
3. To enhance readiness for cross-border ADR practice.
4. To encourage policy awareness on international dispute resolution.

Syllabus

Unit I: International Framework for Arbitration and Mediation:

- UNCITRAL Model Law on Arbitration (1985, 2006)
- UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Conciliation (2002)
- New York Convention (1958) on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards
- ICSID Convention and Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS)
- Singapore Convention on Mediation (2019)

Suggested Readings:

Books:

- Gary B. Born, *International Commercial Arbitration*, Kluwer Law International, Vol. 1, 2009.
- Nadja Alexander, *International and Comparative Mediation*, Wolters Kluwer, 2009.

Articles:

- UNCITRAL Secretariat Guide on the New York Convention 2016; http://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://uncitral.un.org/sites/uncitral.un.org/files/media-documents/uncitral/en/2016_guide_on_the_convention.pdf
- Vidhi Centre, "India and the Singapore Convention: Scope and Challenges" 2019.

Reports:

- UNCITRAL Explanatory Notes on Model Law, 2006; https://uncitral.un.org/en/texts/arbitration/modellaw/commercial_arbitration

Unit II: Comparative Arbitration Models:

- Arbitration laws and reforms in the UK (Arbitration Act, 1996)
- US Federal Arbitration Act and role of AAA, JAMS
- Civil law approaches: France and Germany
- Arbitration in Singapore and Hong Kong: procedural innovations
- Key distinctions in enforcement, interim relief, confidentiality

Suggested Readings:**Books:**

- Julian D. M. Lew, *Comparative International Commercial Arbitration*, Wolters Kluwer Law & Business, 2001
- Jeffrey Waincymer, *Procedure and Evidence in International Arbitration*, Wolters Kluwer Law & Business, 2012.

Articles:

- Lucy Reed, "Arbitration Reform in Asia: Singapore and Hong Kong Models", Kluwer Arbitration Blog, 2019.

Case Laws:

- Hall Street Associates v. Mattel Inc., 552 U.S. 576 (2008) [USA]
- Dallah Real Estate v. Pakistan [UK Supreme Court, 2010]

Unit III: Comparative Mediation and Conciliation Practices:

- Mediation regimes in USA, UK, EU, Singapore, and Australia
- Confidentiality, privilege, and enforceability in different jurisdictions
- Cultural considerations and mediator styles
- Institutional models: WIPO, ICC Mediation Rules, Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR)

Suggested Readings:**Books:**

- Lela Porter Love, *The International Guide to Mediation*, ABA Press, 2009.
- Deborah M. Kolb, *When Talk Works: Profiles of Mediators*, Jossey-Bass Inc., U.S., 1994.

Articles:

- European Code of Conduct for Mediators, 2018; <https://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcgclclefindmkaj/https://rm.coe.int/cepej-2018-24-en-mediation-development-toolkit-european-code-of-conduc/1680901dc6>
- WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center Annual Reports; <https://www.wipo.int/amc/en/center/background.html>

Unit IV: Cross-border Enforcement and Challenges:

- Enforcement of foreign arbitral awards under New York Convention
- Recognition of international mediated settlements under Singapore Convention
- Public policy and sovereign immunity
- Cross-border commercial dispute examples
- Role of national courts in enforcement

Suggested Readings:

Books:

- Emmanuel Gaillard, *Legal Theory of International Arbitration*, Martinus Nijhoff, 2012.
- Bantekas & Ortlep, *International Dispute Resolution*, Cambridge University Press, 2015.

Articles:

- R. Doak Bishop, "Public Policy Exception and Enforcement of Awards", *Contemporary Asia Arbitration Journal*, Vol. 5, pp45-81, 2012.

Case Laws:

- Renusagar Power Co. Ltd. v. General Electric Co., (1994) Supp (1) SCC 644
- Vijay Karia v. Prysmian Cavi, (2020) 11 SCC 1
- Parsons & Whittemore Overseas Co. v. Societe Generale, 508 F.2d 969 (2d Cir. 1974)

Unit V: India's Participation in Global ADR Regimes:

- India's accession to New York and Singapore Conventions
- Interpretation of UNCITRAL Model Law by Indian courts
- Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) and ISDS cases involving India
- Comparative impact of Indian arbitration reforms (2015, 2019, 2021)
- India's engagement in UNCITRAL Working Groups

Suggested Readings:

Books:

- P.C. Markanda, *Law Relating to Arbitration and Conciliation*, LexisNexis, First Edition, 2016.
- O.P. Malhotra & Indu Malhotra, *The Law and Practice of Arbitration in India*, 4th Edition, 2023.

Articles:

- Arghya Sengupta, "India's Role in Global Arbitration Reform", *Caravan*, 2023
- Nishith Desai Associates, "Comparative Analysis of BIT Arbitration", 2015; https://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcgclclefindmkaj/https://www.nishithdesai.com/fileadmin/user_upload/pdfs/Research%20Papers/Bite_of_the_BIT.pdf

Reports:

- Draft India Model BIT, 2016;
https://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://dea.gov.in/sites/default/files/ModelBIT_Annex_0.pdf

Recommendations:

1. Thomas Schultz, *The Oxford Handbook of International Arbitration*, Oxford University Press, 2021.
2. Nadja Alexander, *Mediation: A Comparative Framework*, Kluwer Law International.
3. Gabrielle Kaufmann-Kohler, “Globalization of Arbitration: The Next Frontier?”, *Arbitration International*, Vol. 28, 2012.
4. Michael Pryles, “The Influence of Culture on Dispute Resolution”, *Asian Dispute Review*, 2016.
5. UNCITRAL ADR texts and conventions; <https://uncitral.un.org/en/texts/mediation>
6. Singapore International Mediation Centre (SIMC) – Resources on international mediation standards; <https://simc.com.sg/>
7. ICCA Reports and Toolkits; <https://www.arbitration-icca.org/publications/icca-reports>

Evaluation Scheme:

- Internal Assessment (30 Marks):
 2 written assignments (10 marks), 1 presentation (10 marks) and Class participation/seminar (10 marks)
- End Semester Examination (70 Marks):
 Section A: Short answer questions (30 marks)
 Section B: Analytical/Essay-type questions (40 marks)

Paper II – PGDADR 202

ADR IN COMMERCIAL, LABOR, FAMILY, AND PUBLIC DISPUTES

Duration: 40 hours (including lectures, seminars, and assessments)

Credits: 7

Introduction:

This paper focuses on the application of ADR mechanisms in specific legal sectors where disputes are frequent and sensitive—commercial, labor, family, and public interest. Students will study legal frameworks, case law, and sector-specific ADR models and develop skills to apply suitable resolution techniques in these areas. The course also emphasizes social sensitivity and practical competence.

Course Outcomes (C.O.):

1. To examine the sectoral use of ADR in commercial, labor, family, and public disputes.
2. To analyze procedural differences and statutory bases for ADR in each area.
3. To apply appropriate ADR techniques considering the nature and context of disputes.
4. To evaluate the social, ethical, and professional dimensions of sectoral ADR.

Program Outcomes:

1. To enable learners to participate effectively in dispute resolution across sectors.
2. To integrate legal and emotional intelligence in resolving interpersonal and economic disputes.
3. To understand the institutional and policy frameworks supporting sectoral ADR.
4. To build cross-disciplinary sensitivity and community-focused legal approaches.

Syllabus :

Unit I: ADR in Commercial Disputes :

- Arbitration clauses in contracts: drafting and enforcement
- Commercial Courts Act, 2015 and pre-institution mediation
- Institutional commercial arbitration (e.g., ICC, MCIA)
- Role of SIAC, LCIA, and ICDR
- Case studies on infrastructure, IPR, and shareholder disputes

Suggested Readings:

Books:

- Dushyant Dave, Handbook on Commercial Arbitration, Wolters Kluwer (2021)

Articles:

- Nishith Desai Associates, "Commercial Arbitration in India – 2022 Update"

Case Laws:

- Booz Allen and Hamilton Inc. v. SBI Home Finance Ltd., (2011) 5 SCC 532
- Vidya Drolia v. Durga Trading Corp., (2021) 2 SCC 1

Unit II: ADR in Labor and Employment Disputes:

- Role of conciliation officers and labor courts
- Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 – Section 4 and 12
- Grievance redressal in trade unions and worker-management negotiations
- Collective bargaining and settlements
- Mediation in industrial relations

Suggested Readings:**Books:**

- S.C. Srivastava, Industrial Relations and Labour Laws, Vikas Publishing, 2022.
- K.D. Srivastava, (Revised by) P.L. Malik, Law Relating to Trade Unions and Industrial Disputes, EBC, 4th Edition, 2002.

Articles:

- ILO Guidelines on Mediation and Conciliation in Labor Disputes, High–Level Tripartite Seminar on The Settlement of Labour Disputes Through Mediation, Conciliation, Arbitration and Labour Courts, Nicosia, Cyprus, October 18th – 19th, 2007

Case Laws:

- Life Insurance Corporation of India v. D.J. Bahadur, (1981) 1 SCC 315
- Gujarat Steel Tubes Ltd. v. Gujarat Mazdoor Sabha, (1980) 2 SCC 593

Unit III: ADR in Family and Matrimonial Disputes:

- Mediation under Section 9 of the Family Courts Act, 1984
- Counseling and conciliation in divorce and custody cases
- Role of Women’s Commissions, NGOs, and counselors
- Gender sensitivity and child welfare in family ADR
- Role of Lok Adalats in family settlements

Suggested Readings:**Books:**

- Kusum, Family Law Lectures, LexisNexis, 6th Edition, 2022.
- B.M. Gandhi, Family Law, Eastern Book Company, 2nd Edition 2019, 2nd Edition, 2023, & Reprinted 2024.

Articles:

- National Commission for Women Reports on Family Mediation 2023- 2024; <https://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://cdn.ncw.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/NCWAnnualReport20232024Eng.pdf>

Case Laws:

- K. Srinivas Rao v. D.A. Deepa, (2013) 5 SCC 226
- Gaurav Nagpal v. Sumedha Nagpal, (2009) 1 SCC 42

Unit IV: ADR in Public Interest and Environmental Disputes:

- PIL and mediation in environmental and developmental conflicts
- Negotiated rulemaking and policy ADR
- Mediation in land acquisition, resettlement, and tribal disputes
- Role of civil society and ombudsman

- Dialogue-based dispute resolution in governance

Suggested Readings:

Books:

- S.K. Sarkar, Public Interest Litigation and ADR, Orient Law House, 2024.

Articles:

- UNDP Report on Access to Justice and Environment;
<https://undp.org/rolhr/justice/environmental-justice>.

Case Laws:

- M.C. Mehta v. Union of India, AIR 1987 SC 965
- Orissa Mining Corporation v. Ministry of Environment & Forests, (2013) 6 SCC 476

Unit V: Skills, Challenges, and Sectoral Innovations:

- Soft skills for handling sensitive disputes
- Sector-specific ethics and confidentiality concerns
- Innovative tools: storytelling, visual aids, trauma-informed mediation
- Technology-aided ADR in sectoral disputes
- Drafting and negotiation exercises for each sector

Suggested Readings:

Books:

- Christopher Honeyman & Andrea Kupfer Schneider, Negotiator's Fieldbook, ABA, 2006.
- Julie Macfarlane, The New Lawyer: How Settlement is Transforming Legal Practice, University of British Columbia Press, 2008.

Recommendations:

1. Bhatia, Gautam, *Offend, Shock, or Disturb: Free Speech under the Indian Constitution*, Oxford University Press, for public disputes mediation context.
2. S.K. Bhatia, *Labour and Industrial Law*, Deep and Deep Publications.
3. UNDP India, "Community Mediation: Empowering Grassroots Justice", *UNDP Justice Report*, 2021.
4. Sudhir Krishnaswamy, "Mediation in Public Interest Litigation", *Indian Law Review*, 2020.
5. NCW Family Law Mediation Toolkit – Focus on gender-sensitive mediation;
<https://ncw.nic.in/en/publications>
6. ILO Guide to Labour Dispute Resolution;
https://www.ilo.org/global/publications/WCMS_107540/lang--en/index.htm
7. NITI Aayog Handbook on Online Dispute Resolution;
https://www.niti.gov.in/sites/default/files/2021-12/ODR_Report_NITI.pdf

Evaluation Scheme:

- Internal Assessment (30 Marks):
2 written assignments (10 marks), 1 presentation (10 marks) and Class participation/ seminar (10 marks)

- End Semester Examination (70 Marks):
Section A: Short answer questions (30 marks)
Section B: Analytical/Essay-type questions (40 marks)

Paper III – PGDADR 203

Project / Dissertation / Internship

Credits: 7

Introduction:

This capstone component enables students to synthesize their learning in ADR by undertaking a focused research project, dissertation, or practical internship. The paper is designed to encourage empirical engagement, reflective analysis, and sectoral exploration in dispute resolution. Topics may include arbitration, mediation, conciliation, online dispute resolution (ODR), institutional ADR practices, legal aid models, comparative systems, or reforms in dispute settlement mechanisms.

Course Outcomes (C.O.):

1. To apply theoretical understanding of ADR to practical or research-based legal challenges.
2. To develop independent research and problem-solving capabilities in ADR contexts.
3. To gain exposure to the workings of ADR institutions, tribunals, NGOs, courts, or dispute resolution centers.
4. To contribute constructively to legal, policy, or institutional discourse in the field of ADR.

Program Outcomes:

1. Strengthen academic and professional proficiency in ADR techniques and institutions.
2. Enhance legal writing, empirical documentation, and research methodology.
3. Develop capacity for doctrinal, comparative, or field-based inquiry.
4. Facilitate interface with ADR professionals, policy-makers, and community mechanisms.

Structure & Guidelines:

Option A: Dissertation / Research Project

- Topic Selection: Related to arbitration, mediation, conciliation, ODR, informal justice, institutional reforms, or comparative ADR.
- Supervisor: Faculty member assigned by the institution.
- Format: As per university standards (Abstract, Introduction, Literature Review, Methodology, Findings, Conclusion, References).
- Word Limit: Minimum 10,000 words.
- Submission Date: To be announced by the college.
- Assessment Criteria: Originality (20%), Research Quality (30%), Relevance to ADR (20%), Structure & Presentation (20%), Viva Voce (10%)

Option B: Internship

- Duration: Minimum 4 weeks.

- Host Institutions: Arbitration tribunals, mediation centers, legal aid clinics, NGOs, law firms, online platforms (e.g., SAMA, AGAMI), or government ADR bodies.
- Certification: Letter from the host organization + verification by college internship coordinator.
- Internship Report: Minimum 3,000 words with analysis of tasks, skills acquired, and legal relevance.
- Assessment Criteria: Participation and engagement (20%), Quality of Report (30%), Relevance of Work (20%), Mentor Evaluation (20%), Viva (10%)

Viva Voce Examination:

A panel consisting of internal and external examiners will assess the student's presentation and defense of their work (whether dissertation/project or internship). Viva will evaluate clarity, conceptual grasp, articulation, and response to queries.

Suggested Areas for Dissertation/Project:

- Institutional mediation and Lok Adalat models: A comparative study
- Role of arbitration in resolving MSME disputes in India
- Assessing effectiveness of digital mediation platforms post-COVID
- Application of negotiation theory in family or labor dispute settlement
- Analysis of the Singapore Convention's impact on Indian cross-border mediation
- Community mediation and tribal justice systems in India
- Evaluation of Permanent Lok Adalats under the Legal Services Authorities Act
- Confidentiality and neutrality in ADR: Legal and ethical perspectives
- Exploring the role of gender and power in negotiation strategies
- Judicial attitudes toward ADR in Indian courts

Suggested Readings & Resources:

1. S.K. Verma & M. Afzal Wani (Eds.), *Legal Research and Methodology*, ILI, 2021
2. C.R. Kothari, *Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques*, New Age International
3. Ratanlal & Dhirajlal, *Legal Writing and Drafting*, LexisNexis
4. Julie Macfarlane, *The New Lawyer: Settlement and Dispute Resolution*, UBC Press
5. Nadja Alexander, *Mediation: A Comparative Perspective*, Kluwer
6. *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation*, Harvard Law Review
7. *OSCOLA: Oxford Standard for Citation of Legal Authorities*