REVISED SYLLABUS FOR COLLABORATIVE LAW

SPRING, 2016

Course number: Law 6314
Credit Hours: 2
Time/Location: Thursday: 2:00 – 3:50 P.M.
Room 285D: Holland Hall
Instructor: Jean K. Westin, J.D., Ph.D.
Telephone number: 352-374-8828 (Note: This telephone number is to my law office. Please identify yourself to the receptionist as a student in this class.)
Email address: Jwestindivorce@aol.com (Campus email: jeanwestin@law.ufl.edu)
Campus office: 368D Holland Hall
Office Hours: Thursday: 12:30p – 1:45p – or please call my office (see above) and schedule an appointment. Telephone number for on campus office: 273-0914 (but only during listed office hours).


TWEN: This course is on TWEN. No password is required.

Course Objective: To provide an introduction to collaborative law, an international multi-disciplinary movement whose goal is to provide a non-adversarial platform that will allow the parties to resolve their conflict(s) without invoking the litigation process. While the principals of collaborative law may apply to many areas of law, the process originated in the area of marital and family law which will be the primary focus of this course.

Grading: This is a skills course. Students are expected to actively participate, attend class, read the assigned materials in advance of class and complete assignments in a timely manner. Grades will be based upon class participation (20%), simulations (25%), written assignments (25%) and a final paper and presentation in lieu of a final exam (30%).

Attendance Policy: Attendance will be taken for each class and will affect the class participation portion of the final grade. Excused absences due to illness, emergency or for
religious holidays will not impact the grade. Please make arrangements with other students to obtain class notes.

**Students with disabilities:** Students with disabilities requesting classroom accommodations must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation(s).

### Tentative Class Schedule:

#### Week 1: January 7, 2016
- Preclass reading: Tesler: pp. xv-xxii; xxi-xxx (Forward and Introduction);
  - Introduction: Collaborative Law

#### Week 2: January 14, 2016
- Preclass reading: Florida Statutes chapters 44 and 61
  - Discussion of Florida Statutes for Dissolution of Marriage and for Mediation

#### Week 3: January 21, 2016
- Preclass reading: Tesler: Chapters 1-2 (pp. 1-20); Uniform Collaborative Law Act
  - Collaborative Divorce and various approaches and models: role of interdisciplinary team: Financial neutral; Mental Health Professional (Facilitator); Child specialist; Lawyer; Ethics and collaborative law

#### Week 4: January 28, 2016
- Preclass Reading: Tesler: Chapters 3-4 (pp. 23-78)
  - Concepts of paradigm shift and retooling; Collaborative roadmap; Interest based resolution

#### Week 5: February 4, 2016
- Preclass Reading: Tesler: Chapter 6 (pp. 97-114)
  - “Nuts and bolts”; Screening; Initial contact
  - Simulation assignments: purpose, grading, scheduling.

#### Week 6: February 11, 2016
- Preclass Reading: Tesler: Chapter 6 (pp. 115-118); Chapter 8 (pp. 159-164); Appendix I-G (pp. 305-307)
  - Simulations – Initial consultation/discussion of process
Week 7: February 18, 2016
Preclass Reading: Tesler: Chapter 5 (pp. 79 - 96); Appendix I-B: pp. 249-256 only; Sample Florida participation agreements
- Simulations – Preparation for initial full team/client meeting with professional colleagues; Minutes
- Discussion of written assignments for minutes; future simulations

Week 8: February 25, 2016
MINUTES DUE AT START OF CLASS (Penalty if submitted late);
PAPER TOPIC DUE AT START OF CLASS (Penalty if submitted late)
Preclass Reading: Tesler: Chapter 11 (pages 207 – 220);
Guest speakers: Interdisciplinary Collaborative Team

March 3, 2016
no class: Spring Break:

Week 9: March 10, 2016
Preclass Reading: Tesler: Chapter 6 (pp. 119 -124); Appendix I-E (pages 295-299) and Appendix I-H pap. 309-314
- Simulation: first full team / client meeting; Debrief

Week 10: March 17, 2016
COURT OBSERVATION

Week 11: March 24, 2016
MINUTES DUE AT START OF CLASS (Penalty if submitted late);

- Ethics; Collaborative Law beyond family law.
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<th>Week</th>
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<th>Events</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 12:</td>
<td>March 31, 2016</td>
<td>PAPERS DUE AT START OF CLASS (Penalty if submitted late);</td>
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<td>Week 13:</td>
<td>April 7, 2016</td>
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<td>- Oral Presentations</td>
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<td>Week 14:</td>
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