

DEBRA BERMAN

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

South Texas College of Law Houston, Houston TX

Professor of Law, 2021 – present

Associate Professor of Clinical Studies, 2020 – 2021

Assistant Professor of Clinical Studies, 2017 – 2020

Courses Taught: Alternative Dispute Resolution, Mediation Clinic, Mediation Practice, Mediation Theory & Practice, Representation in Mediation

Awards: AALS Teacher of the Year Award for South Texas College of Law Houston (2020) and South Texas College of Law Houston Faculty Service Award (2022)

Current Committees: Admissions, Financial Aid & Scholarships, Hybrid Education

Train more than 100 students and lawyers annually through the Frank Evans Center mediation certification program; Direct the Mediation Clinic; Co-mediate EEOC cases with students in the Mediation Clinic; Serve as Board Member for the Houston Bar Association ADR Section and Co-Chair of the ABA Section of Dispute Resolution Legal Education Committee.

Director, Frank Evans Center for Conflict Resolution, 2013 - Present

Associate Director, Frank Evans Center for Conflict Resolution, 2011 - 2013

Direct all aspects of the nationally renowned ADR program including external and in-house competitions; Recruit and manage all adjunct professors and team coaches; Established the STCL Energy Law Negotiation Competition and manage all facets of the yearly competition; Developed first of its kind nationwide cross-school settlement negotiation practicum which draws more than 1,000 students each year; Organize and host CLE programs for regional and national ADR groups; Manage the Center budget; Successfully coached teams to numerous national and international first place wins.

American University, Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C.

Adjunct Professor of Law, August 2008 - December 2008 and August 2009 - December 2009

Taught an ADR seminar covering negotiation, mediation, and arbitration; Served as faculty advisor for the Society for Dispute Resolution; Assisted in coaching domestic and international ADR competitions.

ARTICLES AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Debra Berman and Catherine Burnett, *A Hybrid Approach to Teaching Settlement Skills*, 70 WASH. U. J.L. & POL'Y 1 (2023).

Debra Berman, *The Use of Mediator Proposals in Practice: What the Data Tell Us*, DISP. RESOL. MAG., Sept. 2022, at 24.

ABA Section of Dispute Resolution Annual Conference: Panelist: “Confidentiality: Is It an Essential Ingredient in a Successful Mediation?” (April 2021)

Houston Young Lawyers Association and the HBA ADR Section Joint CLE: Organizer and Moderator: Advocacy Skills in Mediation and Arbitration (April 2021)

Pepperdine’s Clinical New Normal Think Tank: Featured Presenter on ADR Pedagogy (February 2021)

Southeastern Association of Law Schools Annual Conference: Organizer, Moderator, and Discussant: “Best Practices and Trends in Teaching ADR” (August 2020)

ICC Young Arbitrators Forum: Moderator: “Nuts and Bolts of Domestic and International Arbitration” (February 2020)

ABA Advanced Mediation Skills Institute: Panelist: “Eliciting Disputant Suggestions and Caucusing Plenary” (November 2019)

ABA Advanced Mediation Skills Institute: Moderator: “Directive Mediator Actions Plenary” (November 2019)

Southeastern Association of Law Schools Annual Conference: Discussant: “Using Dispute Resolution Skills to Teach Current Events” (August 2019)

Southeastern Association of Law Schools Annual Conference: Discussant: “The Future of Alternative Dispute Resolution Scholarship” (August 2018)

ABA Section of Dispute Resolution Annual Conference: Panelist: “The Case Conundrum: Keeping Mediation Clinic Students Engaged Beyond Just Small Claims Courts” (April 2018)

Elon University School of Law, Annual Law Review Symposium: “Effective Decision Making in Negotiation and Mediation” (October 2017)

Southeastern Association of Law Schools Annual Conference: Discussant: “Utilizing ADR Competitions to Foster Practical Dispute Resolution Skills” (July 2017)

Houston Bar Association Annual Conference on ADR: Presenter: “Hot Topics in Mediation Ethics” (May 2017)

American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution Annual Conference: Panelist: “Teaching Mediation, Part 2: Assessment” (April 2017)

Texas Mediator Credentialing Association Annual Symposium: Presenter: “Ethical Issues and How to Solve Them” (October 2016)

Houston Bar Association Annual Conference on ADR: Presenter: “Hot Topics in Mediation Ethics” (May 2016)

American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution Annual Conference: Panelist: “Teaching Mediation: Theory, Practice & Certification” (April 2016)

Houston Young Lawyers Association CLE Event: Presenter: “Mediation: A How-To” (December 2013)

State Bar of Texas ADR Section Annual Conference: Presenter: “Cognitive Barriers in Negotiation & Mediation” (January 2013)

Houston Bar Association Annual Conference on ADR: Presenter: “Cognitive Barriers in Negotiation” (May 2012)

American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution Annual Conference: Panelist: “Family Mediation in the Court and Private Contexts: Is it an Interdisciplinary Practice?” (April 2012)

Texas Association of Mediators Annual Conference: Presenter: “Lawyer Colonization of Family Mediation: Consequences and Implications” (February 2012)

Debra Berman & James Alfini, *Lawyer Colonization of Family Mediation: Consequences and Implications*, 95 MARQ. L. REV. 887 (2012).

Debra Berman, *Compulsory Arbitration in Nonunion Employee Relations: A Strategic Ethical Analysis*, 66 J. OF BUSINESS ETHICS 197 (2006).

SELECT PRIOR EXPERIENCE

Kaplan PMBR, Washington, D.C. & Houston, TX
Regional Director, July 2009 - December 2010

Promoted and sold Kaplan PMBR bar review products to students at assigned law schools; Recruited, trained, and managed over 100 law student representatives; Conducted information sessions on law school campuses and at regional events; Consistently exceeded monthly sales targets; Built relationships with law school faculty, administration, and student organizations to increase brand recognition; Counseled students regarding the bar exam and potential legal employment; Developed marketing plans to grow regional business.

Hogan Lovells, Washington, D.C.
Associate, September 2007 - July 2009

Conducted research on matters regulated by the Food and Drug Administration and Federal Trade Commission; Composed client memoranda on new legal and legislative developments in the area of food law; Assisted corporations in responding to investigatory actions brought by administrative agencies and state attorneys general; Managed a team of twenty contract attorneys; Assisted in the firm’s hiring process by interviewing prospective associates.

EDUCATION

American University, Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C.
Juris Doctor, May 2007

GPA: 3.73; *magna cum laude*, Order of the Coif
Founder and President, ADR Society

Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, May 2004

GPA: 3.75; *magna cum laude*
Concentration in human resource management and psychology

BAR ADMISSION

District of Columbia (active)