

How Faculty and Students Can Use AI Effectively

John Lande

Isidor Loeb Professor Emeritus

University of Missouri School of Law

Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution



Roadmap for This Video

- **Using artificial intelligence (AI) in dispute resolution and teaching**
- **Real Practice Systems (RPS) theory**
- **RPS Coach overview**
- **Demonstration of RPS Coach**

How AI Benefits Faculty and Students

- **Customize teaching materials**
- **Prepare for and participate in simulations**
- **Improve research and writing**
- **Promote feedback and reflection**
- **Prepare for technology in practice**
- **Develop AI literacy**
- **Work more efficiently**

Tips for Using AI Well

- **Use with care – AI isn't perfect**
- **Ask clear, specific questions**
- **Treat it as dialogue – don't just take first response**
- **Verify accuracy and usefulness**
- **Protect confidentiality**
- **Comply with school and faculty AI policies**

How to Write Effective AI Prompts

Formula for a Good AI Prompt

1. Identify your role – “I’m a [role].”
2. State your task – “I need help with [task].”
3. Give context – “The context is [short description].”
4. Request type of output – “I’d like [output].”
5. Add details – “Here’s more detail: ...”

If relevant: include your course, goals, assignment

Sample Prompts for Faculty

- **“Revise my syllabus to prepare students for the NextGen bar exam.”**
- **“Draft a PowerPoint deck for a class on working with clients.”**
- **“Create a simulation of a personal injury mediation.”**
- **“Design an assignment where students use AI to prepare for the attached simulation.”**
- **“Develop a grading rubric for this assignment.”**

Sample Prompts for Students

- **“What are credible sources about ...? Provide links so I can check accuracy.”**
- **“How can I test if an AI tool’s information is accurate?”**
- **“I’m playing a party in a negotiation simulation. How should I prepare?”**
- **“Give me feedback on my mediation opening statement.”**
- **“I’m playing a lawyer in a simulation. My client wants the most favorable possible agreement. How can I achieve my client’s goals?”**

Mediation Practice Systems

- Mediators develop systems through regular practice
 - Actions before, during, and after sessions
 - Partially conscious and unconscious patterns
- Factors affecting systems
 - History, values, motivations, knowledge, skills
 - Categories of cases, parties, and behavior patterns
- Design of their systems
 - Routine procedures
 - Strategies for recurring challenges

Mediation Practice System

Stages	Lawyers	Parties	Mediators
Case Evaluation and Client Counseling	Learn facts Evaluate case Advise clients Retain mediator	Arrive stressed, confused, angry etc. “Client school”	
Preparation for Mediation Session	Coordinate with mediator	Prepare for mediation session with lawyer	Coordinate preparation
Mediation Session	Represent client	Decision time	Mediate
Follow-up	Follow up if needed	???	Follow up if needed

This is an overview of a theoretical system for mediation of legal cases, which is not necessarily achieved in practice. In some cases, parties represent themselves. For more detail, see [*Theory and Practice of Mediation Representation*](#). Copyright John Lande 2024.

What is RPS Coach?

- **RPS Coach = ChatGPT + my RPS training**
- **New AI tool to help:**
 - **Mediators:** Prepare & promote good decision-making
 - **Lawyers:** Strategize & advise clients
 - **Disputing Parties:** Make good decisions
 - **ADR Program Administrators:** Create rules, policies, & materials
 - **Educators and Trainers:** Teach practical theory & skills
 - **Students and Trainees:** Learn practical theory & skills

RPS Coach Knowledge Base

Draws on 200+ of my practical and theoretical publications, including:

- Checklists for mediators and lawyers in mediation
- Litigation Interest and Risk Assessment book
- Party decision-making
- Negotiation & mediation
- Lawyers & mediators
- Preparation & early dispute resolution

How RPS Coach Works

- **Core Approach**
 - Explain capabilities & limitations
 - Promote good decision-making
 - Use language laypeople and experts understand
 - Encourage perspective-taking
 - Provide tools and checklists
- **Content Focus**
 - Consider possible outcomes and party interests
 - Doesn't favor any traditional theory
 - Consider ethical issues
- **Note: It doesn't always follow instructions**

Key Mediation Activities Checklist

- **Before sessions**
 - **Conduct intake**
 - **Discuss dispute and participants**
 - **Arrange to receive documents**
- **During sessions**
 - **Initiate session**
 - **Learn history of dispute & parties' interests**
 - **Help evaluate possible court outcomes**
 - **Address emotional challenges**
 - **Help resolve disagreements**
- **After sessions**
 - **Follow up as needed**
 - **Reflect on the case and lessons learned**

Resources

- Two Page User Guide.
- Getting the Most from AI Tools: A Practical Guide to Writing Effective Prompts.
- Teaching with AI - and Teaching Students to Use It Well.
- Using AI to Promote Student Learning Through Preparation for and Reflection about Simulations.
- AI Can Help Students Learn. You Get Better Papers. And You Know It's Theirs.
- How Can You Turn Adversarial Attorneys into Quasi-Mediators?

First Demonstration

I am a faculty member designing a negotiation simulation for a contract dispute between two small businesses.

I want the scenario to allow students to negotiate for purely self-interested outcomes or to explore options that share benefits.

Help me create a realistic fact pattern and confidential instructions for each side.

Second Demonstration

I'm a law student preparing to act as a mediator in a divorce mediation simulation. The couple agrees about property division but disagree about parenting time and child support.

Help me prepare questions to ask each party, anticipate emotional dynamics, and develop strategies to guide them toward constructive solutions.

Your Turn: Test RPS Coach

See how RPS Coach responds when you try it:

- Read the [2-page user guide](#) to get started
- Pick a real or hypothetical task
- Give RPS Coach a prompt
- Chat in a series of messages back and forth
- Repeat until you're satisfied
- See what worked and what didn't