

## SHORT READING LIST

### CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION COLLABORATIVE AT MIDDLEBURY

#### WHAT IS CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION?

Amanda Ripley, *High Conflict: Why we get trapped and how we get out* (Simon and Schuster, 2021).

- This clearly written book distinguishes between high conflict and healthy conflict. The appendices are helpful guides to recognizing and preventing high conflict.

William Ury, *Possible; How we Survive (and Thrive) in an Age of Conflict* (Harper Collins, 2024).

- Co-founder of Harvard's Program on Negotiation, Ury uses a conflict transformation framework to explain how conflicts from coal mines to Colombia can be addressed constructively.

Bruce Dayton and Louis Kriesberg, *Constructive Conflicts: From Emergence to Transformation* (2022).

- This is a seminal textbook in conflict studies, and Dayton spoke at Middlebury in January 2023.

John Paul Lederach, *The Moral Imagination* (Oxford University Press, 2005).

- Lederach identifies four key dispositions: a focus on relationships, complexity, creativity, and risk-taking. He is on our advisory board and was the 2022 Clifford symposium keynote speaker.

#### CRITICAL SELF-AWARENESS

Douglas Stone, Bruce Patton, Sheila Heen, *Difficult Conversations: How to Discuss What Matters Most* (Penguin Press, revised 2023).

- This foundational, easy to read book suggests specific steps to ensure that challenges to our identity and old communication habits do not get in the way of constructive conversations.

Barry Kroll, *The Open Hand* (University Press of Colorado, 2013).

- Kroll approaches Argument as a bodily practice where peace can be a deliberate outcome.

Vanessa Machado de Oliveira, *Hospicing Modernity: Facing Humanity's Wrongs & Implications for Social Activism* (2021).

- Projects for Peace's Betsy Vegso describes this as "a powerful, critical read which also remains hopeful about the possibilities for change." Oliveira spoke at the college in Summer 2024.

#### DIALOGUE AND DELIBERATION

Levine, Peter, and Nancy Thomas, "Deliberative Democracy and Higher Education," in *To Serve a Larger Purpose*, Saltmarsh and Hartley, editors (Temple UP, 2011).

- Dialogue is "a process of talking and listening with the express purpose of building relationships and fostering mutual understanding" (159). Thomas is on our external advisory board.

Longo, Nicholas, and Timothy Shaffer, *Creating space for democracy: A primer on dialogue and deliberation in higher education* (Stylus Publishing, LLC, 2019).

- This volume identifies dialogue as essential for learning and for the civic skills necessary for democracy. Multiple chapters profile different organizations that use dialogic practices.

National Coalition on Dialogue and Deliberation (NCDD), *Engagement Streams Framework* (2014).

- This document from a practitioner-scholar network maps out different dialogic approaches and describes structured dialogue as part of conflict transformation.

#### INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCE

Beth Fisher-Yoshida, "Reframing conflict: Intercultural conflict as potential transformation." *Journal of Intercultural Communication*, 8:1 (2005): 1-16.

- The director of the Negotiation and Conflict Resolution program at Columbia highlights self-awareness and communication as contributors to conflict resolution and transformation.

Netta Avineri, "Nested Interculturality," In D. Martin and E. Smolcic (Eds.) *Redefining Competence Through Cultural Immersion* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2019).

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- Avineri identifies dispositions to foster (e.g., critical empathy, ethical engagement) and the tensions that emerge in intercultural immersion experiences. Avineri directs the Graduate Pillar. Schirch, Lisa, and David Campt, *The Little Book of Dialogue for Difficult Subjects* (Good Books, 2007).
- Schirch and Campt bridge dialogic practices and intercultural communication. Campt visited Middlebury in January 2023 and is on our external advisory board.

#### RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

Desiree Anderson, “Co-opting Restorative Justice in Higher Education,” chapter 8, in *Colorizing Restorative Justice: Voicing Our Realities*, Valandra and Yazzie, editors (Living Justice Press, 2020).

- Facilitators of restorative justice must do the work of developing their multicultural competence to work effectively across multicultural groups.

Bronwyn Leebaw, “Legitimation or Judgment? South Africa’s Restorative Approach to Transitional Justice,” *Polity* 34.1 (2003): 23-51.

- This case study examines the possibilities and limits of restorative work at structural levels.

Howard Zehr, *The Little Book of Restorative Justice: revised and updated* (Intercourse, PA: Good Books, 2015).

- This clearly written primer identifies restorative justice as a compass that helps us invite accountability and restore relationships when harm has been done.

#### MEDIATION AND NEGOTIATION

adrienne maree brown, *Holding Change: Emergent Strategy Facilitation & Mediation* (AK Press, 2021).

- brown offers core principles, self-assessment tools, and a distinction between facilitation and mediation. brown was the Clifford 2021 keynote speaker.

RAB Bush and JP Folger, *The Promise of Mediation: Responding to Conflict Through Empowerment and Recognition* (2005).

- This transformative model of mediation proposes that moral growth in interpersonal conflict is possible by empowering oneself and recognizing ‘the other.’

Sarah Federman, *Transformative Negotiation: Strategies for Everyday Change and Equitable Futures* (University of California Press, 2023).

- With attention to the power dynamics that often perpetuate marginalization, Federman offers tools to help negotiators find untapped sources of influence and make meaningful impact.

#### CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION FOR STRUCTURAL CHANGE

Mary Anderson and Lara Olson, *Confronting War: Critical Lessons for Peace Practitioners* (2003) ([link](#)).

- This exhaustive study of peacebuilding efforts highlights the critical role of linking efforts that reach both key people and more people.

Avant, Berry, Chenoweth, Epstein, Hendrix, Kaplan, and Sisk, eds, *Civil Action and the Dynamics of Violence* (Oxford, 2019).

- This edited collection showcases research in which a reluctance to use violence and broad coalition building is critical to effective civil action.

Anand Giridharadas, *The Persuaders* (Knopf, 2022).

- In these clear narratives, Giridharadas shows how persuasion is critical to social and political change and requires real listening, powerful stories, and engagement across difference.