

Managing Relationships

Instructions

When doing the reading for this class, there are the two basic kinds of information you need to understand:

1. What are the main points or conclusions that an author accepts with respect to a particular issue?
2. What are the reasons, important considerations, and evidence that lead the author to accept that conclusion?

It is information of the second sort that will be our primary concern, since our most basic task is to evaluate the reasons and evidence that are offered to support accepting one possible position on an issue, rather than another.

Reading

Shell, G. R. (2018). Relationships. In *Bargaining for advantage: Negotiation strategies for reasonable people* (3rd ed., pp. 56–70). Penguin Books.

Questions

1. How does G. Richard Shell characterize the norm of reciprocity? Why is this norm vital to the success (or failure) of negotiation and conflict resolution?
2. What are Shell's suggestions for factoring relationships into your negotiation planning?
3. What is the difference between a personal relationship and a working relationship? How does Shell suggest that you may build a working relationship during negotiation and conflict resolution?
4. What sort of "relationship traps" (p. 69) does Shell consider and what advice does he give for avoiding them?

To answer these questions you will have to reflect critically on what you have read and possibly re-read important passages.

Although I strongly suggest that you write out brief answers to these questions, you do not have to turn in written responses. You do, however, need to be prepared to speak intelligently about these issues at our next class meeting.