

How to start building your professional network in college

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The word “networking” can sound a little cold and formal. But in essence, networking is the act of thoughtfully and intentionally connecting with people who share some of your academic and professional interests. Networking done well can lead to engaging collaborations, new ideas, mentorships, lasting friendships and, yes, professional advancement.

For all these reasons, college is a great place to start connecting with your fellow students, your professors and advisors, and the professionals you meet during your academic career. The course “[Professional Networking](#) [3]” by Dorie Clark, a writer for the Harvard Business Review, will teach you about networking and how you can get started.

In this 27-minute course, you will learn how to prioritize those who may be most important to your field of study — and subsequent career — through LinkedIn. Networking opportunities such as professional conferences and events are constant, and after taking this course you will learn to narrow down which ones are right for you.

Our work world revolves around LinkedIn and this course will help teach you how to begin building your own network.

Remember to start connecting with your fellow students and professors, as well as guest speakers in your classes. This will help when trying to find a job or an internship as you start to build your LinkedIn profile.

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