**LinkedIn Learning**

MSU is committed to empowering our students and employees with the skills and knowledge needed to excel in their careers, and we are proud to partner with LinkedIn Learning to deliver on that promise.  LinkedIn Learning is a leading online educational platform with over 20,000 courses taught by recognized industry experts and presented in various formats including bite-sized video, audio only, and in-depth content.  This platform offers another tool for faculty to tap into rich content for classroom material, students to gain skills certifications and fill gaps in learning, and employees to stay current and grow their skills. It is offered at no cost to students, faculty, and staff.

**Activate Your Account**

1. If you have an existing LinkedIn account, please log out.
2. New and existing users will click on the following link: <https://www.linkedin.com/learning/login>. This link is also available in 'My Resources' on your MyState home page.
3. Sign on using your MSU NetID email address: [netid@msstate.edu](mailto:netid@msstate.edu) (note that aliases or other MSU departmental email addresses will not work in this step. You will need to log in using your MSU NetID.)
   * If you are new to LinkedIn Learning, you should only need to sign-on to complete the integration.
   * If you are an existing user of LinkedIn Learning, you will be prompted to combine your accounts into a single account.  You can opt out of connecting your profiles, but the integration provides one-click access to LinkedIn Learning from LinkedIn.

**Best Practices**

Leveraging LinkedIn Learning effectively for professional growth involves being intentional, proactive, and strategic. Here are some best practices to make the most of the platform:

**1. Set Clear Learning Goals**: Start by assessing your current skill set and identifying areas for improvement. Do you need leadership skills, technical expertise, or soft skills like communication and time management?Set both immediate learning goals (e.g., mastering a new software tool) and long-term career goals (e.g., developing expertise in project management). This will help you choose the right courses and track your progress.

**2. Create a Learning Plan:** LinkedIn Learning offers pre-designed learning paths that can guide you step-by-step to develop mastery in a particular area. Explore learning paths related to your goals (e.g., Data Science, Digital Marketing, Leadership). Once you've set your goals, select courses that directly align with your objectives. Choose courses that will fill gaps in your knowledge and build on your current expertise.

**3. Learn at Your Own Pace**: Set aside time each week to focus on learning. It could be an hour every morning or 30 minutes during lunch breaks. The key is regularity.

**4. Apply What You Learn:** To solidify your learning, apply what you've gained from the courses in real-world scenarios. For example, if you’ve learned about a new software tool, integrate it into your workflow.

**5. Take Advantage of Certificates**: Upon completing courses, you’ll receive certificates that you can share on your LinkedIn profile. This not only helps you keep track of your progress but also highlights your new skills to your network and potential employers.

**6. Stay Engaged with the Learning Community**: Many LinkedIn Learning courses allow you to comment or interact with other learners. Participate in discussions to deepen your understanding and gain insights from others.

**7. Track Your Progress and Reflect**: LinkedIn Learning tracks your course completions, certificates, and skills learned. Review your progress periodically to assess how far you've come and identify areas that still need attention.At regular intervals, reflect on how the new skills you’ve acquired are benefiting your career. Are you more efficient at your job? Are you in a better position to take on leadership roles? Use this reflection to set new learning goals.

**8. Network and Showcase Learning on LinkedIn:** Once you’ve completed courses, add your certificates to your LinkedIn profile. This highlights your commitment to personal development and makes your skills visible to your network and potential employers.

By following these best practices, you can ensure that you’re maximizing LinkedIn Learning’s potential to advance your career and improve your skills in a way that is aligned with your goals and aspirations.