Make the Most of the Virtual World - Ace Online Networking with our LinkedIn Challenge AND
win a great LinkedIn Goodie bag!

We've created a simple but effective challenge activity to support you to gain more confidence using LinkedIn and win a LinkedIn goodie bag! Complete the three-part challenge during November and December 2020, then submit your response by **12pm on 13 January 2021.**

**Part one - Complete all three of the activities below:**

- Listen to our two bite-sized LinkedIn recorded sessions on [Getting Started with LinkedIn](#) and [Using LinkedIn to Find a Job](#).
- Set up your own profile with a professional looking headshot.
- Complete the Education and Work Experience sections of your profile.

**Part two - Choose one activity from each of the following groups to complete:**

**GROUP A**

- Identify and follow between five-ten companies on LinkedIn that are of particular interest to you. Great for building commercial awareness and finding hot off the press company news, plus information about new job postings.
- Connect to at least ten new people but with each request, send a short professional message giving a reason for wishing to be connected to them.
- Join a couple of professional groups that you are interested in, and, even better post a comment in one of them. This will add to your professional credibility and often recruiting managers are part of these groups and will notice you for all the right reasons.

**GROUP B**

- Use the Royal Holloway Alumni function to identify individuals who have completed the same degree as you to understand their career paths, find out where they gained work experience and through this, generate some career ideas of your own. You could even send them a connection request, highlighting your common ground.
- Choose a professional in your immediate network or a Royal Holloway Alumni who you would love to have a career conversation with. Send a note to ask if they’d mind having a short virtual chat. This is known as an informational interview, find out more about them in this webinar. This might take more work but reaps significant benefits. It could be as short as 15 minutes.

Once you've completed the activities in parts one and two, you’ll need to submit answers to the questions in part three.

**Part three - Take time to reflect on what you have undertaken already and what the outcomes have been for you. Your answer should be between 300-500 words.**

- What optional activities did you choose to complete and why?
- What activities did you find challenging?
- How exactly did they help you with your career research/decision making/networking and job hunt? For example, “I found a few good jobs to apply for by following certain companies and…” or “I completed an informational interview and it was really useful because…”

What next?

Send your reflective piece to careers@royalholloway.ac.uk. We’ll then select three of the submissions to win a LinkedIn goodie bag. Good luck!