

What is RSS?

RSS

RSS stands for several things, including *Really Simple Syndication* and *Rich Site Summary*. It is a way to get all your favorite web content delivered to one place, so you don't need to repeatedly visit sites looking for updates. RSS is often described as being a feed, which one subscribes to. Depending on whose feed you are viewing, RSS feeds often include the title of the article and a small excerpt or even the whole article. There is an endless amount of content you can get with RSS including:

Publisher news	Press releases	Journal TOC's
Statistical software updates	Local News	Weather
Penn research	Events	Saved search results
New books	Netflix list	Social bookmarks
Sharing with colleagues	Wiki feeds	Latest photos

Why would you want to use RSS?

- Less email alerts
- Easier to unsubscribe from than email alerts
- Less searching
- Quickly browse through everything and discard or save for later
- All the information you are interested in, in one place!

RSS Feed readers you can use include:

Google Reader	This reader was demonstrated in the workshop. If you already have a Google account, you might want to use this one. It uses tags and folders to organize your feeds.	http://google.com/reader
Bloglines	This reader uses hierarchal folders to organize feeds.	http://bloglines.com
Netvibes	This feedreader has a look that is similar to the customized home pages on Google and Yahoo. Feeds are arranged in boxes that you can move around, and you can create tabbed pages for different topics.	http://netvibes.com
Yahoo	If you already have a Yahoo account, you might want to use this one. The feeds are displayed on your personalized Yahoo homepage.	http://my.yahoo.com
Sage	This reader integrates into Firefox and will only be accessible from the computer you install it on. It is not an online program.	http://sage.mozdev.org

How do you subscribe to feeds?

Look for XML, ATOM or RSS icons which are usually orange (like the examples to the right) but can sometimes be green or blue. Right click on the icon and "Copy link location." Return to your feed reader and paste the copied URL into the appropriate place, depending on which program you are using.



If you are using Sage, you can click on the magnifying glass icon, and it will find all the

feeds on the page you are currently viewing in Firefox.

What Demography resources offer RSS?

- Scholarly commons working papers <http://repository.upenn.edu/>
- Census Bureau <http://www.census.gov/main/www/feeds.html>
- Project Muse http://feeds.muse.jhu.edu/latest_issues.html
- Synergy Blackwell http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/help?context=rss_help
- See <http://www.pop.upenn.edu/resources/library/rss.html> for a more complete list.

We have created a prepared file of bookmarks which you can import to the reader of your choice.
Get the file here: <http://www.pop.upenn.edu/news/workshopfiles/google-reader-subscriptions.xml>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Addie or Nykia at:
psc_library@mailman.ssc.upenn.edu.