

Library Live: Information Delivered to Your Desktop

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Objectives

- Participants will recognize the difference between journal alerting services and search alerting services
- Participants will learn the workings of RSS feeds
- Participants will set up at least one journal alert
- Participants will set up at least one search alert

Outline of Presentation

Three types of information you can get at your desktop today:

What is in the table of contents of the new issue of my favorite journal?

[Journal Alert]

When has new information on my research topic been published?

[Search Alert]

How can I rerun a search in a database at another time?

[Saved Searches]

1. Journal Alerts

You choose journals you are interested in and a message is generated to let you know a new issue has been published

Journal alerts can be set up for electronic journals in

EJC

Ebsco

Ingenta publications/ or other publishers

- **Kent State must have an electronic subscription for you to view the full text online— BUT, you may also choose to set up an alert to remind yourself to look at the print copy (the article abstracts will let you know if this is worth your time).**
- Any publisher restrictions, or embargo periods for electronic journals still apply to full text (the alert tells you the journal has been published)
- Find out if Kent State has electronic access to a journal (from any source) by using the link below (yes it is a long and silly URL, best to bookmark it):
<http://qk8mu7jr6k.search.serialssolutions.com/>
If you would rather link to it go to www.library.kent.edu, click on Journals, then E-Journal Finder.

Setting up a Journal Alert:

Electronic Journal Center (EJC)

1. Go to the EJC <http://journals.ohiolink.edu>
2. Look for “Create an Account” and follow the prompts to create your new account
3. Click on All Journals to locate journals of interest to you
4. Search for the Journal by title or browse through the list by topic
5. Look for “Add to My Journals” on the right side of the front journal page
6. Choose to be notified by email or RSS (don’t know what RSS is? Keep reading)

EBSCO

1. In the EBSCO Database you use, click on the link for Publications
2. Search for the title you are looking for
3. Click on the title
4. On the right side of the journal window, click on Journal Alert
5. Sign In or create an account
6. Select the options for the alert
7. Choose to be notified by email or RSS (don’t know what RSS is? Keep reading)

Three ways to receive this information:

1. Check on the service yourself
2. By email
3. Use of an aggregator (RSS)

2. Search Alerts

You create a search in a database that has the type of results you are looking for, and have the database notify you when additional materials apply to your topic

Search Alerts can be set up in almost any database

Ebsco

OSearch

Citation Indexes

Choose your preferred database and set up the alert from the step-by-step handout

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3. RSS or Feed Aggregators/ Syndicators

Aggregators/syndicators are programs that keep track of websites, journals, blogs, news that changes or is updated over time. It keeps track of what you want and shows an updated set of “headlines” for that website/ journal. It also lets you know when the material has been updated

This can be a piece of software that you download to your computer, or it can be an online service that is accessible wherever you use the internet.

Lists of feed aggregators (RSS readers)

Google Reader <http://www.google.com/reader> (uses Gmail accounts)

Yahoo News (reader) <http://www.yahoo.com/rss> (uses Yahoo Mail accounts)
(also <http://www.yahoo.com/s/about/rss/index.html>)

MSN aggregator (for RSS) <http://www.start.com> (uses MSN mail accounts)

<http://blogspace.com/rss/readers> ☐

<http://www.lights.com/weblogs/rss.html> ☐

http://directory.google.com/Top/Reference/Libraries/Library_and_Information_Science/Technical_Services/Cataloguing/Metadata/RDF/Applications/RSS/News_Readers/ ☐

<http://blogs.law.harvard.edu/tech/directory/5/aggregators>

Connecting with Bloglines.

1. Set up an account with an RSS reader
Or, Download the program (most are free)
2. Locate the “feed” material you would like to keep
3. Find the RSS address (url for the feed, show example)
3. Open your RSS reader
4. Copy the feed into the Add section
5. Check back whenever you like, highlighted items will be ‘new’