

{microblogging}

A Workshop

presented by

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{microblogging}

Five Minute Introduction

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Blogging, but shorter, easier*
and (usually) more frequent.

* This is of course debatable.

Microblogging:

- usually features the ability to publish from just about anywhere;
- can be used by individuals and organizations (and robots!) alike;
- is quite often publicly findable, followable (*e.g.*, via **RSS**), and social.

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Demo: How Twitter Works

SIMPLE RELATIONSHIPS

Either you follow an account or you don't. (You can also block offending accounts.)

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STREAMS OF PRESENCE

Individuals & organizations
reveal themselves via their
aggregated postings.

STREAMS OF ATTENTION

“You can step in and out of the flow of information as it suits you.”

“Isn't Twitter just too much information?”

<http://twitter.com/about>

FLEXIBLE WAYS TO ORGANIZE

Users use #hashtags to mark tweets as belonging to a certain topic or type of data. Hashtags can be planned or emerge spontaneously.

FLEXIBLE WAYS TO ORGANIZE

Tweets can also have GPS coordinates attached to them for purposes of geolocation and discovery by nearby people/devices.

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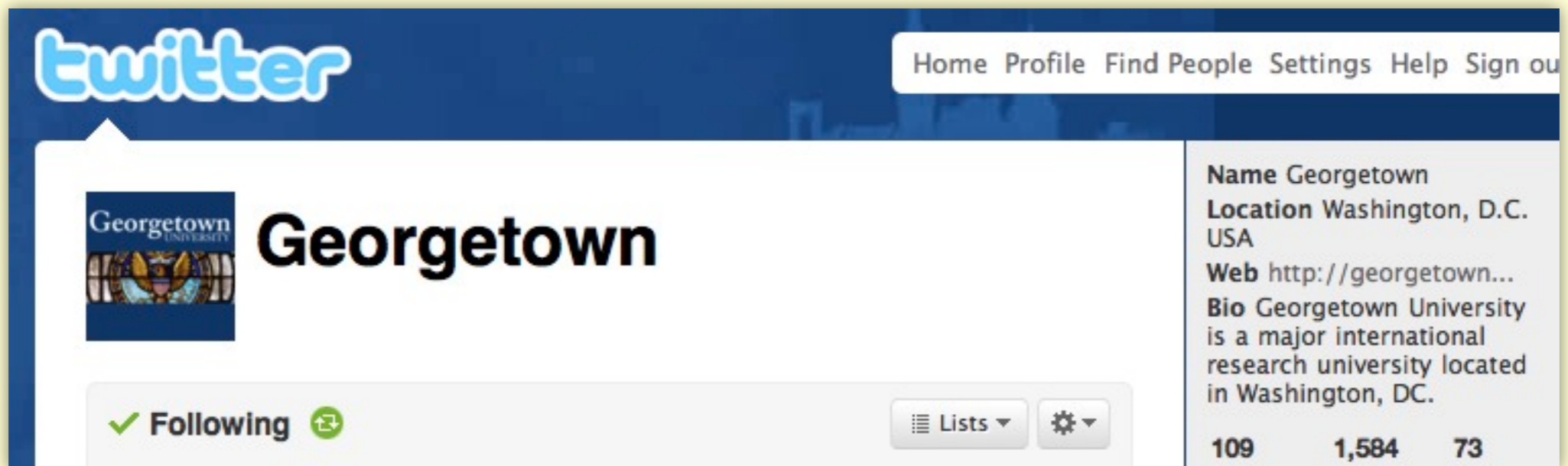
Examples (Michael)

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Usage at Georgetown

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Georgetown's Office of Communications tweets news and events.



The image shows a screenshot of the Georgetown University Twitter profile page. The page features the Twitter logo in the top left corner and a navigation menu in the top right corner with links for Home, Profile, Find People, Settings, Help, and Sign out. The profile header includes the Georgetown University logo, the name "Georgetown", and a "Following" status with a checkmark and a refresh icon. Below the header, there are buttons for "Lists" and "Settings". The bio section on the right provides details about the account, including the name "Georgetown", location "Washington, D.C. USA", a website link "http://georgetown...", and a bio description: "Georgetown University is a major international research university located in Washington, DC." At the bottom of the bio section, the statistics for the profile are displayed: 109 tweets, 1,584 followers, and 73 following.

twitter

Home Profile Find People Settings Help Sign out

Georgetown UNIVERSITY **Georgetown**

✓ Following ↻

Lists ⚙

Name Georgetown
Location Washington, D.C. USA
Web <http://georgetown...>
Bio Georgetown University is a major international research university located in Washington, DC.

109 1,584 73

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Garrison LeMasters’
American Studies class uses
Twitter to “chart the daily
progress” of student theses.



“Our virtual classroom attempts to offset students’ isolating research by building an *ad hoc*, publicly-accessible stream of updates ...”

“Thesis Tweetstream Project”

<http://twitter.myamericanstudies.com/about.html>

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Discussion: @Georgetown
