

Group Periodical Survey Reports

As we have seen, magazines can often be read as complexly layered texts, their diverse visual and textual elements engaged in dialogue with one another. The appearance of Hemingway's short story "The Killers," for example, became a differently inflected text when accompanied by the illustrations, advertisements, and commentary of Scribner's magazine. Similarly, Mansfield's stories too are differently inflected by their appearance in the New Age rather than ordered as part of a collection like In a German Pension. These stories, typically read in isolation from such contexts, in fact form part of what Nelson calls the "coherent mixed genre" of the magazine.

This assignment will ask you to develop the kinds of reading we have been discussing in class, seeking out new contexts for familiar texts while thinking more carefully about the larger structures and bibliographic codes of magazines. Working in teams of three, you will first select a major journal held in McFarlin's Special Collections and prepare a joint presentation on it to the seminar. You may organize the work as you wish (dividing up sections of the journal, issue numbers, etc), but the final report should be a collective presentation that synthesizes and integrates the work you have done individually. The final 15-minute presentation should include not only bibliographical information, but details about the writers, the contents, and the coherence of the individual magazines. Handouts, visual images, etc. are strongly encouraged.

You should select one of the following magazines:

The Yellow Book (v1-5)

The Strand (v1-5 or 5-10)

The Chapbook

To-Day

Coterie

The Owl

The Enemy

Wheels

Rhythm

Presentations will be made in class on **7 October**. You will also be asked to turn in your individual research notes at this session.