Did you know that one of the first vampire novels was published in Italy thirty years before Stoker’s *Dracula*? In fact, Italian literature is populated by all sorts of scary fantastic creatures. This course aims to present some of them and discuss fantastic fiction through the reading of classic short stories by modern Italian authors including, among others, Ugo Tarchetti, Tommaso Landolfi, Italo Calvino, Anna Maria Ortese, and Giorgio Manganelli.

This course is designed to present multiple perspectives of the Italian fantastic tale with a special emphasis on reading, speaking and vocabulary building. Students will develop the analytical and interpretive skills necessary for both written and verbal critical responses to Italian literature.

Film screenings will also be included. All course work/readings in Italian.