TERRORE ITALIANO

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Did you know that one of the first vampire novels was published in Italy thirty years before Dracula? Or that Italian horror movies are an international cult genre? Despite the stereotype of Italy as a country of sun and love, terror is an important part of Italian culture too. Fear and terror did not only manifest themselves creatively, in cinema and literature, but also in the actual violence of the years of fascism and, in the 1970s, political terrorism. But what is terror? And how did Italian society deal with it culturally? The course is designed to respond to these and other questions through the reading of short stories and poems by modern Italian authors and the analysis of some of the most (in)famous Italian horror and giallo movies. The course will place 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, and other media. In Italian.