

**Course title:** Optional Course: Italian Literature

**Course code:** IT1063 (A), IT1066 (B)

**Course type:** compulsory

**Level of the course:** BA

**Year of study:** 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Semester:** 6<sup>th</sup>

**Number of ECTS credits allocated:** 5/5

**Name of the lecturer:** Gabriela E. Dima

**Course objective:** Familiarize students with the latest literature in Italy. The presentation of the thriller fiction in the Italian literature. Explain the importance of the hidden subject / social criticism behind an apparently popular genre.

**Course contents:** Theoretical premises, the definition of the concepts "giallo" and "noire". The thriller as a narrative archetype in the Italian literature. The history of the genre in Italy. The first authors writing thrillers in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Restarting the genre at the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the explosion at the end of the 1960's. The end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century – the action novel, the assertion of the problems in the contemporary society. History as background in the action novel and the historical action novel.

**Recommended reading:** Pietropaoli, *Ai confini del giallo. Teoria e analisi della narrativa gialla ed esogialla*, Napoli, Edizioni Scientifiche italiane, 1986; G. Petronio, *Introduzione a G. Petronio (a cura di), Il punto su: Il romanzo poliziesco*, Bari, Laterza, 1985; M. Pistelli, *Un secolo in giallo, Roma, Donzelli, 2006*

**Teaching methods:** lectures, debates

**Assessment methods:** 50% project paper, 50% final written test

**Language of instruction:** Italian