Are you interested in understanding the literature of writers like Borges, Cortázar, and Vargas Llosa whose books circle the globe? Is Latin America really so full of wonders that writers like García Márquez and Isabel Allende had to invent their own literary style of “magical realism” to faithfully express its reality? The goal of this course is to explore the region’s vibrant literary production by analyzing short stories from Argentina, Uruguay, Cuba, Chile, Guatemala, México, Colombia, and Perú. We will engage with narrative texts from Latin America in order to consider three main issues of contemporary importance: identity, the fantastic, and the writing of history.

This class will be conducted in English and texts will be read in English translation. Prior knowledge of Spanish or Hispanic literature is not required. This class satisfies the Literary Arts (LA) general education requirement. For more information, please contact the instructor, Carlos Abreu Mendoza (abreumen@email.unc.edu).