As the contemporary Dominican American Writer Oscar Diaz tells his creative writing students, all fiction involves the creation of an imagined world, a world that may resemble our own, but in its difference allows us to imagine alternatives to our present realities or to see where the logic of the present might be taking us. Our readings will take us around the globe to examine how 20th and 21st century writers have used the elements of speculative and fantastic literature to explore philosophical, political, and more recently, environmental issues.

We will read short stories and novels. We will read authors such as:

- Margaret Atwood
- Karen Tei Yamashita
- Kurt Vonnegut
- Steven Millhauser
- Jorge Luis Borges
- Philip K. Dick
- Adam Hines