Course description: This class will explore the city of Venice as it appears on screen and in real life. We'll watch films from such directors as Andrea Segre, Luchino Visconti and Silvio Soldini as you explore the city yourselves to experience first-hand its importance as the setting for so many cinematic masterpieces. We will also examine representations of Venice in order to identify forms of aesthetic modernism within the specifically Venetian context. How do these modernist narrations engage with their location—imagined or otherwise—in Venice and its environs? What are their relations to modernism’s broader national iteration? What about Venice in Vegas? In California?

Requirements: active participation in all class discussions; midterm and final in-class exams. Discussions in English, readings in English or Italian.

Week 1
T 11 June Introduction to course; Screening and discussion of Silvio Soldini, *Pane e tulipani* 2000
Th 13 June Adaptation theories and modernity

Week 2
T 18 June Screening and discussion of Luchino Visconti, *Senso* 1954; Guest lecture, Professor Dario Biocca, “Europe’s Gateways. The Fall of Venice as a Network City”
20 June Discuss Camillo Boito, *Senso* 1883

Week 3
25 June Screening and discussion of Luchino Visconti, *Morte a Venezia* 1971
27 June Discuss Thomas Mann, *Death in Venice* 1912

Week 4
2 July Screening and discussion of Andrea Segre, *Io sono Li* 2011; Guest lecture, Prof. Michele Alacevich, “The Crisis of Venice”
4 July Midterm exam in class

Week 5
9 July Field trip (details TBD); Henry James, *Italian Hours*
11 July Discussion of Giuseppe Berto, *L’anonimo veneziano*

Week 6
16 July Tiziano Scarpa, *Venezia è un pesce*; Conclusions and review
18 July Final exam in class