Center for the Humanities and Social Change
The Center for the Humanities and Social Change at Ca’ Foscari is an interdisciplinary platform created by Ca’ Foscari University of Venice and the Humanities and Social Change International Foundation. Its mission is to draw upon the creative power of the humanities to develop responses to the world’s most significant and pressing challenges.

We live in an age of unprecedented movement of people across continents, provoked by the processes of decolonization, war, globalization of commerce and finance, climate change. Imagining how people can live together is an imperative that has led us to embrace cultural pluralism as our focus.

Bringing together Ca’ Foscari’s faculty, graduate students, fellows, visiting scholars in various disciplines, as well as public intellectuals and professionals in policy, journalism, and beyond, the Center promises to inspire meaningful dialogue and formulate practical solutions.

Summer School: Fact and Value in Public Life, June 2018
Our Fellows and their research projects

Three-year Researchers

Francesco Della Puppa
(Dipartimento di Filosofia e Beni Culturali - Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage, tutor: prof. Francesca Campomori)
**Social Innovation by Means of Artistic Media for Addressing Cultural Diversity: Coping With the Challenges of Young Second Generation Immigrants Starting from Educational System**

Luigi Doria
(Dipartimento di Studi Linguistici e Culturali Comparati - Department of Linguistic and Comparative Cultural Studies, tutor: prof. Francesca Coin)
**The Nature of Money And its Social Perception in Times Of Crisis**

Fabiana Zollo
(Dipartimento di Scienze Ambientali, Informatica e Statistica - Department of Environmental Sciences, Informatics and Statistics, tutor: prof. Agostino Cortesi)
**Misinformation: A Quantitative Analysis of Intolerance and Polarization**

Andrea Drocco
(Dipartimento di Studi sull'Asia e sull'Africa Mediterranea - Department of Asian and North African Studies, tutor: prof. Antonio Rigopoulous)
**Language Rhetoric and Linguistic Strategies of Religious Intolerant Discourses: The Case of South Asia**

Post-Docs

Marco Marrone
(Dipartimento di Management - Department of Management, tutor: prof. Vladi Finotto)
**IT and the future of work: democracy vs. technocracy in the workplace**

Luigi D'Amelia
(Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici – Department of Humanities, tutor: prof. Antonio Rigo)
**Are texts innocent? Nourishing religious prejudice in the Middle Ages**

Igiaba Scego
(Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici – Department of Humanities, tutor: prof. Ricciarda Ricorda)
**“Afrodescendants” in Post-World War II Italy: Experiences and Representations (1944-1979)**

Alan Del Piccolo
(Dipartimento di Studi Linguistici e Culturali Comparati – Department of Linguistic and Comparative Cultural Studies)
**Digital Shakespeare – Shakespeare In and Beyond the Ghetto**

Ph.D.

Ilenia Pittui
(Dipartimento di Filosofia e Beni Culturali - Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage, tutor: prof. Martina Frank)
**The Iconography of the Turk in the XVth and the XVIth century: a ‘wise knot’ between word and image**

Francesca Massarenti
(Dipartimento di Studi Linguistici e Culturali Comparati - Department of Linguistic and Comparative Cultural Studies, tutor: prof. Pia Masiero)
**The Stories that b(1)ind us: How Stories work, and how they Change the World**

Laura Calvaresi
(Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici - Department of Humanities)
**Building a language, rethinking an ethic: virtues of the Christian merchant between liberalitas and industria (1250-1350)**

Giovanni Lapis
(Dipartimento di Studi sull'Asia e sull'Africa Mediterranea - Department of Asian and North African Studies, tutor: prof. Massimo Raveri)
**Education to Interculturality through the Studies of Religions. The Problem of East Asian Religions**
Our first year

17 May 2017
Aula Baratto, Ca’ Foscari
Opening lecture: Amitav Ghosh: The Humanities and Climate Change

31 October 2017
Auditorium Santa Margherita
Edmund De Waal: La strada bianca: poesia, porcellana, passione

24 November 2017
Ca’ Dolfin
Symposium on Memories of Africa. Colonial Traces in Italian Culture

18 December 2017
Aula Baratto, Ca’ Foscari
Maurizio Ambrosini and Russell King: The migration-politics nexus in today’s Europe

16 febbraio-7 aprile
Back to Life in Iraq

16 March 2018
San Servolo Island
Back to Life in Iraq conference
With Matti al-Kanun, Abdoul Jabbar Mustafa, Carlotta Sami, Sara De Vido, Elisabetta Zendri, Vittorio Ubbiani

22 February 2018
Seminar Shakespeare, Tolerance and the Digital Humanities
Diana Henderson, Fabio Pittarello, Alan Del Piccolo

22 March 2018
CFZ – Cultural Flow Zone
Gloria Wekker: White Innocence

6 April 2018
Auditorium Santa Margherita
Ngugi wa Thiong’o at the Festival Incroci di civiltà Festival

15 May 2018
Auditorium Santa Margherita
Laurie Anderson: Things that I have lost in the Flood (lecture)

18 May 2018
Ateneo Veneto
Serpi Bağcı
Illustrated Ottoman Manuscripts of Iskendername (Book of Alexander) and the Marciana Copy

4-9 June 2018
Venice Seminars on The Fountainheads of Tolerance (with Reset Foundation)
Summer School and Seminars
With Giuliano Amato, Seyla Benhabib, Homi Bhabha, Giancarlo Bosetti, and others

24-30 June 2018
Ca’ Foscari
Summer School with the fellows of HSC Santa Barbara
Fact and Value in Public Life: Plural Cultures, Media, and the Academy Today.

Seminars with:
Wanda Alberts, Sepil Bağcı, Imre Barga, Paolo Di Paolo, Lisa Iotti, Suranga Katugampala, Silvain Piron.

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“Ca’ Foscari firmly believes in this project in which, thanks to the support of the HSC International Foundation, scholars, researchers and PhD students will tackle current topics working in teams and collaborating with scholars from all over the world. Venice becomes the centre of a scientific activity that will investigate the social problems and cultural changes of our time”.

Michele Bugliesi  
Rector of Ca’ Foscari University of Venice

“Our mission is, first, to understand the nature of challenges to society in the 21st century; second, to develop visions and concepts that inspire improvement; and third, to actively promote and influence change.”

Erck Rickmers  
Chairman of the Humanities and Social Change International Foundation

Upcoming events:

21-23 March 2019  
Afropean Bridges

3-6 April 2019  
HSC Session at Incroci di Civiltà Festival

23-25 May 2019  
HSC & Reset Venice  
Seminars: Sources of Democracy

Lectures and events with:  
Andrea Most  
Stefano De Matteis  
Luc Steels  
Avedis Hadjian  
Edward Wilson-Lee  
Nakul Sawney  
Frank London  
Marjorie Agosin  
Joan Tronto

Check our updated calendar on:  
hscif.org/venice-events

Center for the Humanities and Social Change

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From March 2019:  
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