

This event provides an interdisciplinary exploration of Black Lives in Italy that span multiple centuries by bringing together scholars from across CU-Boulder working in History/Religious Studies, Italian Literature/Italian Studies, and Film and Media Studies to share their recent scholarship. Their work focuses on different sorts of texts (historical, literary, new media and film), spans from the Middle Ages to the Twenty-first Century, and focuses on different cities and regions of Italy (Sicily, Naples, Ravenna, Lombardia). The conversation will be enriched by the perspectives and comments of two respondents, Shelleen Green author of *Equivocal Subjects: Between Africa and Italy--Constructions of Racial and National Identities*, and Vetri Nathan author of *Marvelous Bodies: Italy's New Migrant Cinema*. The goal of the event is to consider the advantages and challenges of taking a broad and long view when studying Black Lives in Italy. The public is invited to join the discussion as we all consider the following questions: What points of contact or divergence do we see across time periods/texts/regions? Do contemporary theoretical frameworks for understanding the representation of Black Lives benefit analyses focused on earlier periods? What advantages or challenges do we see about taking the long view of representations of Black Italian lives? How can we productively move forward with this research and how might it shape our teaching?