VIU summer SCHOOL FILMS In VENICE AND FILMING VENICE

Films in Venice and Filming Venice

August 31 - September 9, 2026

Venice International University
Isola di San Servolo, Venice

Venice International University

VIU Summer School

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Faculty / Scientific Committee:

Nitzan Ben Shaul
Tel Aviv University

Sally Faulkner
University of Cambridge

Norimasa Morita
Waseda University

Luca Pes
Venice International University

Thomas Reinhardt
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität

Angela Vettese
Università Iuav di Venezia

Course description
The aim is to **combine film analysis, theory and practice,** applying them to representations of Venice, through a multidisciplinary and multicultural approach, reflected both in the composition of the faculty and the student body. In one part of the program, students will be introduced to the history, culture, and anthropology of Venice and their relation to visual media. They will be offered basic notions of film analysis and film-making theory. The other part will be devoted to film-making practice. **Students will be encouraged to develop a team project on Venice, taking inspiration from selected movie scenes and locations, their toponyms and social character, adopting a "complex narrative" when writing the script**: a film, which will be screened and collectively discussed and analyzed at the end of the Summer School.

Providing critical tools for understanding and creating visual moving images is necessary today. We live in a society where the eye prevails among the senses; where everybody has at hand (and at more accessible prices) sophisticated ready and easy to use instruments for producing and consuming videos: tablets, smartphones and recently even virtual reality equipment. There is a trend in film making to mix genres and a growing interest in Visual Anthropology and the relationship between cinema and locations, which makes it interesting to offer a multidisciplinary and multicultural experience in an over represented and historical place such as Venice.

Venice is a literary and visual arts palimpsest and a study laboratory in contemporary social and environmental conflicts and contradictions. The presence of the Film Festival provides further opportunities for discussion and inspiration. VIU is the ideal place for multicultural and multidisciplinary activities.

Learning outcomes
Developing knowledge of the theoretical and analytical aspects of cinema and on the challenges of visual representation of recognizable places; achieving an understanding of problems and potentials entailed with the Venetian setting; acquiring or improving skills in filmmaking, inworking in a team and in

storytelling, also as a complement to written scholarship.

Who is it for?
Graduate and undergraduate students from various disciplines: film studies, film-making, art history, visual art, history, cultural anthropology, sociology, and anyone who would like to learn the theoretical and practical basics of film-making, experiencing Venice as a complex setting and inspiration

Faculty / Scientific Committee
Nitzan Ben Shaul, Professor of Film and Television, Head of the Digital Media Program, Tel Aviv University, Israel

Sally Faulkner, 1933 Professor of Spanish, University of Cambridge
Norimasa Morita, Professor of Literature and Film Studies, Waseda University, Japan

Luca Pes, Professor of Italian Contemporary History in Films, Vice Dean, Director of the Globalization Program, Venice International University, Italy

Thomas Reinhardt, Professor of Media & Visual Anthropology and Semiotics, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Germany

Angela Vettese, Professor of Theory and Criticism of Contemporary Art, Director of the Master in Visual Arts, Iuav University Venice, Italy

Program structure and Schedule
The course duration is **10 working days** and will be preceded by some online sessions. Participants should expect to be engaged full time and should plan to **arrive Monday, August 31** and **depart Thursday, September 10.** The program will coincide with the **83rd Venice Film Festival**.

Day 1 | Monday, August 31
Arrival and Evening - Welcome Cocktail

Day 2 | Tuesday, September 1
AM *Introduction to Venice*
PM *Lectures and Seminars on Short Films and image making in Venice + Film Festival Accreditation*

Day 3 Wednesday, September 2
AM *Lectures and Seminars on Short Films and image making in Venice*
PM *Visit to selected locations + crew formation* social dinner

Day 4 Thursday, September 3
AM *Lectures and Seminars on direction, production, photography, screenwriting, and editing*
PM *Lectures and Seminars on direction, production, photography, screenwriting, and editing*

Day 5 Friday, September 4
AM *Planning+ Writing*
PM *Shooting*

Day 6 Saturday, September 5
AM *Planning + Writing*
PM *Shooting*

Day 7 Sunday, September 6
AM *Shooting*
PM *Shooting*

Day 8 Monday, September 7
AM *Shooting*
PM *Shooting*

Day 9 Tuesday, September 8
AM *Shooting*
PM *Editing*

Day 10 Wednesday, September 9
AM *Editing*
PM *Editing and Screening + Closing & Refreshment*

Daily Schedule
Most of working days will end at 4:00 PM to allow attendance to the Film Festival.

Fees
Students from VIU member universities:
€ 600 incl. VAT
Other applicants:
€ 1200 incl. VAT

VIU Alumni are eligible for a reduced fee.

The fees will cover tuition, course materials and equipment, lunches in the San Servolo cafeteria (4 working days on campus), social events, and the 83rd Venice International Film Festival accreditation.

Student participants will be responsible for covering their own travel expenses to and from Venice, local transportation and accommodation.

During the Venice Film Festival, San Servolo Island is directly connected by public boat to the Film Festival venue.

PhD candidates and post-docs from universities in EU universities may be eligible for Erasmus+ mobility grant support. Refer to international

offices in home universities for information. VIU will provide any supporting documentation requested for such applications.

Contact VIU Erasmus office: erasmus@univiu.org

Accommodation
In shared rooms (triple/quadruple) with other participants**: € 500 VAT included** for 10 nights with breakfast (municipal tax included). Further information will be available in the Application form.

Call for applications:
March 20 – May 20, 2026
via the VIU website

Admitted candidates will be notified **by May 25, 2026**, and asked to pay the tuition fee and accommodation fee (if requested) **by June 3, 2026.**

Applicants must submit the application form, a short motivation letter and a curriculum vitae with photo.

Number of students
From a minimum 16 to a maximum of 25.

Credits
Number of ECTS equivalence: **4**
Students will receive a certificate of attendance.

Venice International University is a consortium of 23 institutions, representing 14 countries throughout the world.

The mission of VIU is to foster cooperation among VIU member institutions while facilitating the exchange of knowledge and ideas, by developing, promoting and organizing joint academic, research and training/capacity-building program. Students from non-member universities may participate in selected academic programs.

The academic programs at VIU are distinguished by a markedly interdisciplinary approach to the topics, and by the international perspectives that the participants contribute to the discussions.

Location

The campus of Venice International University is located on the island of San Servolo, in Venice.

Partners

Ca' Foscari University of Venice
Università Iuav di Venezia
LMU Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
WASEDA University
אוניברסיטת תל-אביב TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY

viu summer SCHOOL

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