Italy's late unification into a nation and its persistent reputation for regionalism bring to the fore a political and geographical reading of 'centers and peripheries'. With the CICIS 2019 conference we propose a more flexible interpretation of these terms, which considers aesthetic, conceptual, social, and artistic instantiations as well as historical and spatial ones. We ask how the topic 'Centers and Peripheries' invites one to rethink questions of genre and language, of the relationship of the artist to power, of immigration and global literature, of canon and audience. We encourage considerations of the elusive space between center and periphery: the margin, the threshold, the border, the limit. We welcome proposals that take up the multiple connotations of these terms in all eras of Italian history and culture, and across fields of study - including, but not limited to, literature, culture, history, film, art history, and philosophy.

Presentations should not exceed 20 minutes and should be given in English or Italian. Please send abstracts of 250 words to acapra@stanford.edu by December 1st, 2018. The conference is open to graduate students and professors.

CICIS 2019 will also have 4 spots on a special off-topic panel for dissertations in progress. If you are interested in presenting a short précis of your dissertation (15 mins. max) for feedback and discussion, please indicate that in your abstract.

CICIS 2019 will cover travel for participants and attendees, with a maximum of $250 for airfare. We will also provide accommodations but urge you to seek to share a room with other attendees or contact our graduate students here at Stanford, who have generously agreed to host some graduate students from other campuses. As usual, meals will also be provided.