This course investigates the history of Italian eating traditions that unite the practices of the Italian regions as well as those customs that have distinguished regional differences from the Etruscan and Roman times to the present. Key concepts such as the production and consumption of food, its significance as survival and cultural element, will be discussed in order to understand notions of national, regional, class, and individual identities. We will look at the images of food in a variety of works, including material from Ancient Rome, contemporary stories, and films. All readings, discussions and written work are in English; films are in Italian with English subtitles.