Dino S. Cervigni’s *Boccaccio’s Decameron: Rewriting the Christian Middle Ages and the Lyric Tradition* (ACMRS 2021), develops a new interpretation of the *Decameron*, a masterpiece which has found renewed popularity in the wake of COVID. The author offers an all-inclusive, unified, and novel reading of the masterpiece, emphasizing the essential nature of the ten evening ballads and showing that the first ninety tales of the *Decameron* offer a parodic rewriting of the Christian Middle Ages, while the last ten tales craft a reconstruction of society based on human and liberal principles such as secular generosity and sacrifice. The ten evening songs, likewise, rewrite all topoi characteristic of dolce stil nuovo poetry.

Dino S. Cervigni is professor emeritus of Romance Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is the founder and editor-in-chief of «Annali d'Italianistica», and the author of numerous books.

The presentation will be in Italian.