The Reception of Aristotelian Science in Early Islam: A Historical Account

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Hellenic science in late antiquity in its historical, social, and political context. The consolidation of the Aristotelian/(Neo-)Platonic curriculum of higher studies, expressing the scientific outlook on reality of Hellenism in its defense against Christianity. The beginning of translations of parts of the curriculum into Syriac and Middle Persian, culminating with its wholesale translation into Arabic after the appearance of Islam. The social and historical context of the reception of the Aristotelian treatises into Arabic and their role in the formation of classical Islamic civilization, successor to the Hellenic.

Presented by the Center for Middle East Studies, the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, and the Departments of History, Medieval Studies, Philosophy, and Religious Studies at UCSB