



Bibliothèque nationale de France, arabe 2346, f. 131r (detail). Arabic translation of Aristotle's 'Poetics'. Source: gallica.bnf.fr

INTERNATIONAL EXPLORATORY WORKSHOP, OCTOBER 11-12, 2019

CODING AND ENCODING: NEW APPROACHES TO THE STUDY OF SYRIAC AND ARABIC TRANSLATIONS OF GREEK SCIENTIFIC AND PHILOSOPHICAL TEXTS

KEYNOTE LECTURE

GRAECO-ARABIC STUDIES BEYOND GREEK AND ARABIC: INTEGRATING THE WESTERN HUMANITIES CANON

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A survey of the history, nature, present state, and significance of Graeco-Syro-Arabic studies, and its development into a humanistic discipline that redefines and methodologically re-orientates the history of science and philosophy in the societies of the West (of India) from antiquity to the Renaissance, and illuminates their social and ideological histories; in essence, it integrates the Western humanities canon of the major languages (but not only) of Greek, Syriac, Arabic, Latin, and Hebrew. The philological work at its core, for which it is mostly (but incompletely) known, will be discussed with references to the research currently undertaken during the conference and elsewhere. The philological core provides material for the study of the social and ideological history of the societies named, and it also offers a methodological blueprint for the study of the history of science and philosophy during the said period, an example of which will be given from the project on Aristotle's 'Poetics' conducted at the Free University in Berlin under the aegis of the Einstein Stiftung.

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