NEW PERSPECTIVES ON CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHERS IN MEDIEVAL ISLAMIC BAGHDAD

Room 017, MORRICE HALL
3485 McTavish Street, Montreal

NOV 27
4:15 - 5:45 PM

The ‘Baghdad School’ or ‘Baghdad Aristotelians’ were a group of Christian philosophers who flourished in the Abbāsid capital during the tenth and eleventh centuries CE. They participated actively in the intellectual culture of the time and played a central role in translating Greek philosophical texts into Arabic and interpreting them in their new Islamic milieu, as well as in coining an Arabic philosophical vocabulary and constructing a system of Arabic logic. One key concern shared by its members was to harmonize philosophy and religion by implementing exegetical methods inherited from late antiquity. This talk will introduce the Baghdad School and its modern historiography, provide insight into the works and doctrines of individual thinkers, and also share the results of recent and ongoing research that has brought to light its philosophical originality and significance.