

## Conference

# Ibn al-Haytham’s *Epistle on the Shape of the Eclipse*

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**Abstract:** The *Epistle on the Shape of the Eclipse / Maqâla fî sūrat al-kusūf* was composed by the mathematician and astronomer Ibn al-Haytham (d. after 1040). This is the first scientific text on the *camera obscura*, a device which will be further investigated in the Middle Ages (Bacon, Pecham, Baisiu...) and Renaissance (Maurolico, Della Porta, Danti, Kepler, Scheiner...). Ibn al-Haytham’s work makes use of geometrical optics to determine the shape of a partial eclipse of the sun projected on a plane surface through a pinhole. My talk will discuss some of its results.

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10.30 – 12.00 am | FCUL | Room 8.2.19.



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