

Persian Writings on Ayurvedic Medicine: The Construction of a Genre

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4:30 pm to 6:00 pm, September 7th 2016

Room 120 C.K. Choi Building

Dr. Speziale will examine the translation of foreign materials into post-Abbasid Muslim medical culture by looking at the production of Persian works dealing with Indian medicine.

From the 14th century onwards, the composition of Persian texts on Ayurveda emerged in South Asia as a new genre of writing, which was actually a composite genre including various kinds of texts. These Persian treatises apply new linguistic and cognitive categories to the analysis of the translated material; the interpretation based on the criteria of the receiving culture is added to, and sometimes replaces, the criteria of the source culture.