



CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF
MEDICINE AND THE BODY
IN THE RENAISSANCE

INSTITUTIO SANTORIANA
FONDAZIONE COMEL



YALE UNIVERSITY
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

UNIVERSITY OF
EXETER

Julius-Maximilians-
**UNIVERSITÄT
WÜRZBURG**



STUDIO FIRMANO
PER LA STORIA DELL'ARTE MEDICA E DELLA SCIENZA

PSMEMM
Palgrave Studies in Medieval & Early Modern Medicine

**CSMBR
ONLINE
EVENTS**

ARISTOTLE'S THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE AND HELLENISTIC EPISTEMOLOGIES

**6
JUNE
2023**
5.00 pm CEST

THE PRINCIPLES OF DEMONSTRATION IN THE ANCIENT COMMENTARY TRADITION

ORNA HARARI • Tel Aviv University

The account of the principles of demonstration found in the Greek commentary tradition on Aristotle's Posterior Analytics is significantly different from Aristotle's own account. Whereas Aristotle classifies the principles mainly according to their intrinsic characteristics as propositions, the commentators do so by appealing to the knower's cognitive attitude towards them. In my lecture I explain this

difference, arguing that it reflects the commentators' adaptation of Aristotle's theory of demonstration to the epistemological theories originated in the Hellenistic era, specifically to the view that the intellect and perception are criteria of truth. This explanation brings to light the considerations underlying the commentators' understanding of the principles of demonstrations, and clarifies why they held that the knowledge of the

other principles are derived from different sources.