## PYTHAGORAS BYZANTINUS

9<sup>th</sup> Seminar

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## ABSTRACT

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A significant Pythagorean tradition, the tradition of the four mathematical sciences, can be traced through Antiquity down to Byzantine times. A learning journey to be taught to those who acquired higher education, it provided firm ground not only in science but also in the study of philosophy. Ancient Pythagorean tradition has possibly been lost to us in its core but its late antique descendants give testimony to its resilient ideas and vigorous impact on the emerging medieval culture trained in the Greek scientific tradition. Around the 1310's Georgios Pachymeres, a most distinguished scholar and prolific writer, created his *Syntagma ton Tessaron Mathematon*, a rare work, the only complete Byzantine quadrivium surviving today. In this presentation we will get to see how Pachymeres regarded his work and how he constructed its contents, upholding a tradition that goes back in time not to just hint at but to attribute itself to the Pythagorean tradition.