

## Timeline

2000–500 B.C.	Babylonian civilization
600–580 B.C.	Thales of Miletus flourishes
6th c. B.C.	Pythagorean school founded
399 B.C.	Socrates executed
388 B.C.	Plato founds the Academy
384 B.C.	Aristotle born at Stagira
348/7 B.C.	Death of Plato
335 B.C.	Aristotle founds the Lyceum at Athens
332 B.C.	Alexandria founded
323 B.C.	Alexander the Great dies after creating a vast empire; Aristotle flees Athens and dies a year later
c. 300 B.C.	Museum and Library founded at Alexandria; Euclid flourishes
212 B.C.	Romans conquer Syracuse; Archimedes killed
86 B.C.	Romans sack Athens
44 B.C.	Start of Julian calendar; Julius Caesar murdered
30 B.C.	Rome annexes Hellenistic Egypt
79 A.D.	Pliny the Elder killed in the eruption of Vesuvius
150.	Ptolemy flourishes
c. 162–8.	St. Justin martyred at Rome
c. 270.	Library of Alexandria destroyed during civil warfare
313.	Edict of Milan legalizes Christianity in the Roman Empire
325.	Ecumenical Council of Nicaea
354–430.	Life of St. Augustine
410.	Rome sacked by Alaric

476.....Last of the (Western) Roman emperors slain by the barbarian Odoacer

524.....Boethius executed

c. 530.....St. Benedict writes the *Rule*, origin of the Benedictine Order

622.....Muhammed flees to Medina from Mecca—beginning of Islamic calendar

711–718.....Spain annexed to Islamic Empire; Muslim fleet destroyed at Constantinople by Greek fire

750–1000.....Translation movement into Arabic

756.....Umayyad caliphate established in Spain

762.....Al-Mansūr founds Baghdad as seat of `Abbasid caliphate

782.....Patriarch Timothy I debates the nature of Christ with Caliph al-Mahdī using the methods of Aristotle’s *Topics*

800.....Charlemagne crowned Holy Roman Emperor

c. 1020.....School of Chartres founded

1020s–1030s.....Al-Hazen (Ibn al-Haytham) active in Cairo

1085.....Christian forces capture Toledo

1099.....First Crusade takes Jerusalem; Latin Kingdom established

1125–1200.....Latin translation movement; texts from Arabic enter Europe

1187.....Saladin captures Jerusalem

c. 1200.....University of Paris established; Oxford, about twenty years later

1205.....St. Dominic founds the Order of Preachers (Dominicans)

1209.....St. Francis founds the Order of Friars Minor (Franciscans)

1258.....Baghdad sacked by the Mongols

1275.....Alphonsine Tables compiled

1277.....Condemnation of 1277; 219 propositions condemned at the University of Paris

1270s–1280s.....Willem of Moerbeke translates Aristotle from Greek

1330s.....“Oxford Calculators” active

1348.....Black Death (bubonic plague) arrives in Europe; within a few years, it kills one-third of the European population

1400–1500.....Humanism develops as a major intellectual force, first in Italy, then elsewhere

c. 1450.....Johannes Gutenberg invents moveable-type printing

1452.....Constantinople falls to the Turks

1492.....Columbus lands in the New World; last of the Muslims expelled from Spain

1517.....Luther nails up his theses

1522.....Magellan’s expedition circumnavigates the globe

1543.....Copernicus’ *De revolutionibus* and Vesalius’ *De fabrica* are published

1545–1563.....Council of Trent

1560s–1570s.....Paracelsus’ unpublished works begin to appear in print

1572.....“Tycho’s new star” appears in Cassiopeia; he begins construction of Uranibourg in 1576

1577.....A bright comet appears and is calculated to be superlunary

1582.....Start of Gregorian calendar

1586.....Fontana successfully moves the Vatican obelisk

1588.....Tycho proposes the Tychonic system

1600.....Gilbert’s work on the magnet is published

1603.....Accademia dei Lincei founded at Rome

1607.....Jamestown founded in Virginia

- 1609.....Kepler proposes ellipses as planetary orbits
- 1610.....Galileo's telescopic discoveries appear in the *Sidereus Nuncius*
- 1620.....Plymouth colony established in Massachusetts
- 1632.....Galileo's *Dialogues on the Two Chief World Systems* published; the next year, he is condemned
- 1642.....Birth of Newton, death of Galileo
- 1648.....Van Helmont's works published
- 1658.....Gassendi's natural philosophical system published
- 1660.....Royal Society of London founded; given Royal Charter in 1662
- 1666.....Académie Royale des Sciences founded in Paris; Paris Observatoire founded the following year
- 1687.....Newton's *Principia* published
- 1699.....Paris Academy reorganized