

Aristotle (384-322 BCE) came from Northern Greece to study in Plato's Academy and stayed there until Plato died some twenty years later. When he returned home to Macedonia, he became tutor to the King Philip's son Alexander (later to be known as Alexander the Great). He later returned to Athens and formed his own philosophical school, the Lyceum.

He was the first person to codify logic, and to introduce syllogism as a principle of deductive logic. (An example of a syllogism is, "all sheep have four legs, Bertha is a sheep, therefore Bertha has four legs). Aristotle was particularly interested in the reasons that things happened, rather than the causes. In other words, he was interested in what people are trying to bring about when they act, their aims or ends, and not what makes them act. So when mothers say that their baby's are smiling at them (i.e. so as to make contact with them) and nurses say, "it's just indigestion causing it. It's not really a smile", Aristotle would have sided with the mothers.