Cecco D'ascoli Encyclopedia Article

Cecco D'ascoli

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Cecco D'ascoli

c. 1269-1327

Italian astrologer and mathematician who taught both subjects at the University of Bologna (1322-24). Born Francesco degli Stabili, Cecco taught astrology at a number of institutions around Italy before moving to Bologna. He presented a defense of astrology after Dante Alighieri (1265-1321) attacked it in the *Divine Comedy*, and accused Dante of heresy; ironically, Cecco himself was burned at the stake as a heretic. His most important writing was an allegorical and encyclopedic poem entitled *L'acerba.*