

# History of Ancient Athens

**Post by “Kalosyni” of July 8, 2022 at 2:19 PM**

Here is some info on the history of Ancient Athens during the time that Epicurus was alive.

[Wikipedia](#) says Epicurus lived 341-270BC. [Diogenes Laertius](#) says 341-271BC.

The following short section is from [Wikipedia](#):

## Hellenistic Athens

Further information: [Hellenistic Greece](#), [Lamian War](#), [Phocion](#), [Demetrius of Phalerum](#), [Chremonidean War](#), [Second Macedonian War](#), [First Mithridatic War](#), [Lycurgus of Athens](#), [Antigonid dynasty](#), and [Seleucid Empire](#)

Shortly after the death of Alexander the Great, [Antipater](#) and [Craterus](#) became joint generals of Greece and Macedonia.<sup>[21]</sup> Athens joined [Aetolia](#) and [Thessaly](#) in facing their power, known as the [Lamian War](#).<sup>[22]</sup> Craterus fell in a battle against [Eumenes](#) in 320 BC,<sup>[23]</sup> leaving Antipater alone to rule for a year, till his death in 319 BC.<sup>[24]</sup> Athens had a central role in the struggle for his succession, when Antipater's son, [Cassander](#), secured the [Piraeus](#) leaving Athens without a source of supplies,<sup>[21]</sup> to contest Antipater's successor, [Polyperchon](#). To consolidate power against Cassander, Polyperchon restored Athens's democracy, as it was before the Lamian War. However, after losing the fleet one year prior, Polyperchon had to flee Macedon when in 316 BC Cassander secured control of Athens. Cassander appointed [Demetrius of Phalerum](#) as head of the administration of Athens. Demetrius remained in power until 307 BC when Cassander's enemy, [Demetrius Poliorcetes](#) captured Athens,<sup>[25]</sup> and Macedon, ending the short-lived [Antipatrid dynasty](#) and installing his own.

## Athens and the rise of the Roman empire

After the [Pyrrhic War](#) (280–275 BC) Rome asserted its hegemony over [Magna Grecia](#) and became increasingly involved in Greece and the Balkans peninsula.

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**Post by “Cassius” of July 8, 2022 at 4:14 PM**

Thank you Kalosyni. This topic came up Wednesday night when we were discussing that there doesn't seem to be a lot of detailed information on our usual core pages about the political situation in Athens during the specific years that Epicurus was alive.

Knowing what was going on specifically during his life, rather than loosely and generally as we tend to talk about it, would probably be helpful.

At some point we need some enterprising person to pick up the challenge and write an article about what we know specifically about the years during which Epicurus was "flourishing" (to borrow the standard Aristotelian term). Kalosyni's links give us a start!