

Voula Tsouna Zoom Presentation This Thursday, May 27, at 12 Noon EDT

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The Epicurean Notion of *Epibolē*

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Starts in New York 12:00 p.m. / Cambridge 5:00 p.m. / Budapest 8:00 p.m. / Athens 7:00 p.m.

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The surviving writings of Epicurus and his followers contain several references to *epibolē* – a puzzling notion that does not receive discussion in the extant Epicurean texts, even though it is known to have been debated within the Garden. While the grammatical components of *epibolē* (*epi* + *bolē*) have commonly been taken to indicate that the term refers to projection or attention, there is no consensus about what *epibolē* is, what it is of, and what it operates on. Even more importantly, the epistemological status and role of that notion is unclear. On the one hand, Diogenes Laertius attests that some Epicureans treated the philosophical *epibolē* its distinctive representational *epibolē* of the mind as criteria of truth. On the other, Epicurus explicitly states that the criteria of truth are precisely sensations, preconceptions, and feelings. Since overt disagreement with the Founder is not permissible in the context of the Garden, it is important to examine whether Epicurus' surviving writings might permit or suggest that *epibolē* too has criterial status. This and other related questions are crucial for the ethical theory as well as the epistemology and scientific methodology of the Garden. For the criteria are supposed to ensure both access to truths and solid grounds for action.

Links:

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<https://www.forumhellenisticum.com/support>

<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/2032-voula-tsouna-zoom-presentation-this-thursday-may-27-at-12-noon-edt/?postID=12343#post12343>