

2022 Epicurus vs Buddhism Compare and Contrast Thread

Post by “Pacatus” of September 29, 2025 at 1:22 PM

[Quote from Kalosyni](#)

Parallels can be seen between Pyrrhonism and Buddhism.

Undoubtedly the best scholarly introduction to Pyrrhonism is Adrian Kuzminski's ***Pyrrhonism: How the Ancient Greeks Reinvented Buddhism***. Although Kuzminski uses (particularly Nagarjuna's) Buddhist philosophy as a helpful interpretive lens, the book is about Pyrrhonism.

It is a sympathetic introduction (which I think is the best way to begin – think Emily Austin's introduction to Epicureanism). He insists that Pyrrhonists accept the testimony of the senses – as evident, rather than non-evident affairs; that Pyrrhonists accept the evidence of the senses, and reasonable inferences therefrom; and that they withhold judgment only with regard to categorically non-evident things – which are subject to non-confirmable *belief*. It is that kind of belief that, according to Kuzminski, the Pyrrhonists meant by “dogmatic.”

It's a well-researched and well-written book. I won't comment one way or the other on his interpretations – or the differences between Pyrrhonism and Epicureanism: I'm sure that Kalosyni can do a much more competent job on that score. (I'm not sure if Kuzminski would agree with Doug Bates – whose site Kalosyni linked, and who wrote a big book on Pyrrhonism – on everything. Or with other neo-Pyrrhonists such as Diego Machuca.)

I just thought I'd share that reference for anyone interested.