

Innovations/Updates in Epicurus Philosophy

Post by “Matteng” of April 18, 2026 at 7:16 AM

Hi,

in one of Hiram's essays about the 4. criterion of the Canon he mentions rules for Innovations or Updating the Philosophy. I like the idea so that it can evolve with new data and scientific findings.

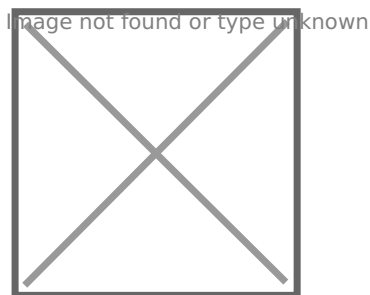
What do you think about it ? Has someone direct quotes for that ?

What would Epicurean Philosophy look like when Epicurus would live today or when the garden/school had evolved until today ?

Which basic principles are close to be „timeless“ or “hardcore“ ?

The essay:

„... In order to avoid cognitive dissonance and the muddying of his doctrines, the Hegemon left instructions regarding innovation, as reported by Michael Erler in the second chapter of the book Epicurus and the Epicurean Tradition. Epicurus established two criteria for innovation: akoloythia (“that which follows”, which requires that the innovation have internal consistency) and symphonia—meaning that the innovation could not contradict the evidence of nature or any of the established doctrines of the school...”



[On the Fourth Criterion of the Canon](#)

To fully understand this essay, first read the Study Guide for the Epicurean Canon.
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