

## On "Sober reasoning"

Post by "Cassius" of August 25, 2019 at 9:17 AM

[Quote from Hiram](#)

I don't know how well he knows the physics but he's a librarian and very well read.

Probably that means he is like many people, so I won't direct this comment at him, but to the many that I observe who act like the physics is absolutely irrelevant. They miss entirely why it is important, and so they never understand what they are missing, and why it supports (and in fact is the essential base for) the ethics. Pretty much the same thing as the epistemology - it is a required base, and if you don't understand the theory of knowledge you'll never have confidence in your conclusions.

As we think about structured paths for helping bring people along in Epicurean philosophy, we ought to find a way to stress that this is essential, and discourage people from going further til they understand the base. Because if they don't understand the base they will inevitably backslide, or mutate into something else, never really understanding Epicurus at all.