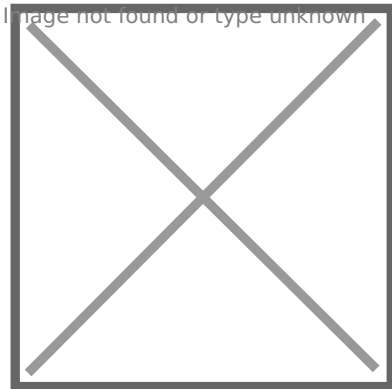


Epicureanism and Scientific Debates Epicurean Tradition and its Ancient Reception - New (2023) Collection of Commentaries

Post by “Matteng” of October 29, 2024 at 4:10 PM

Hello everyone, I became aware of this new work on "Academia". In it you can find deeper connections between ethics and epistemology from Epicurus' philosophy. I'm currently still reading it and have discovered very new, refreshing texts/topics. I just wanted to share it with you 😊

That is the link:



[F. Masi-P.-M. Morel-F. Verde \(eds.\), Epicureanism and Scientific Debates. Epicurean Tradition and its Ancient Reception, Volume II. Epistemology and Ethics](#)

F. Masi-P.-M. Morel-F. Verde (eds.), Epicureanism and Scientific Debates. Epicurean Tradition and its Ancient Reception, Volume II. Epistemology and Ethics
www.academia.edu

If you are logged in it is for free.

It is too big to attach it (3 MB).

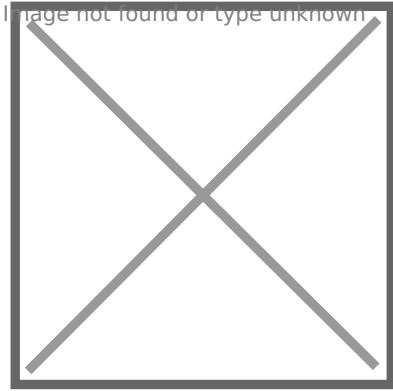
Post by “Cassius” of October 29, 2024 at 4:19 PM

Thank you! Looks like it's very new. Is there a Volume 1 or other Volumes?

<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/4116-epicureanism-and-scientific-debates-epicurean-tradition-and-its-ancient-receptio/>

Post by “Matteng” of October 30, 2024 at 5:37 AM

Yes there is a Volume 1 it is about other topics,: language, medicine and metereology



[Epicureanism and Scientific Debates Antiquity and Late Reception](#)

Epicureanism and Scientific Debates Antiquity and Late Reception

www.academia.edu

Post by “Cassius” of October 30, 2024 at 7:28 AM

Thank you Matteng! This looks to me to be a major new set of articles that I don't think anyone here has referenced before. I would ask that those who have the time to help us explore what's here and post in the thread about what they are finding. I will also edit the title of the thread to make clear that its a 2 - Volume work - and the PDF download from Academia is free. Thank you again!

Here's the blurb from [Cornell](#):

Epicureanism is not only a defence of pleasure: it is also a philosophy of science and knowledge. This edited collection explores new pathways for the study of Epicurean scientific thought, a hitherto still understudied domain, and engages systematically and critically with existing theories. It shows that the philosophy of Epicurus and his heirs, from antiquity to the classical age, founded a rigorous and coherent conception of knowledge. This first part of a two-volume set examines more specifically the contribution of Epicureanism in the fields of language, medicine, and meteorology (i.e., celestial, geological and atmospheric phenomena).

<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/4116-epicureanism-and-scientific-debates-epicurean-tradition-and-its-ancient-receptio/>

Offering a renewed image of Epicureanism, the book includes studies on the nature of human language and on the linguistic aspects of scientific discourse; on the relationship between Epicureanism and ancient medicine, from Hippocrates to Galen; on meteorological phenomena and the method of explaining them; and on the reception of Epicurus's legacy in Gassendi.

Contributors: Julie Giovacchini (CNRS, Paris), Francesca Masi (Università Ca' Foscari Venezia), Dino De Sanctis (Università degli Studi della Tuscia), Chiara Rover (Universität Hamburg/MCAS), Enrico Piergiacomi (Universität Zürich), David Leith (University of Exeter), Vincenzo Damiani (Universität Ulm), David Konstan (New York University), Voula Tsouna (UC Santa Barbara), Jürgen Hammerstaedt (Universität zu Köln), Craig Martin (Università Ca' Foscari Venezia), Frederik Bakker (Radboud Universiteit)

Post by “Cassius” of October 31, 2024 at 10:50 AM

In my skimming this work so far, the article I have found most interesting is "The Elaboration of Prolepsis Between Epicurus and The Stoics: A Common Challenge To Innatism?" by Jean-Baptist Gourinat.

The article contains very useful background and a chart comparing uses of prolepsis by Epicurus and the Stoics. He also draws together the evidence that Epicurus and Zeno were not so much at war with each other but that much of the war with the stoics started with Chrysippus.

So far I think he tends to take a different approach than several of us here, in holding (underlined) that "In other words, preconceptions are mental images stored and engraved in the mind, but they also include a conception of what something is, they are the basis for human knowledge and recognition of universal objects, and they are naturally formed in the mind, without being taught."

But regardless of that, he draws a distinction between Diogenes Laertius and Cicero that I think most of us recognize:

Quote

However, there is a difference between the two accounts, since Diogenes Laertius gives examples of preconceptions of natural kinds (i.e., human, horse, or cow) and describes a concept formation that is the result of sense-perception and memory. Cicero by contrast does not refer to the preconceptions of natural kinds but to the preconceptions of the gods, and he does not say that we form this preconception by

perception and memory, but that we have an “inborn” (insita uel potius innata) knowledge that nature has “engraved in our minds” (insculpsit in mentibus):

quote omitted... then

Quote

Here, Cicero does not explicitly attribute to Epicurus the claim that we are born and come to life with such a preconception of the gods already implanted in our minds at the very moment of our birth. However, he uses such words as insitus and innatus that point to an innate knowledge, not depending on any sense experience. 41 He also insists that nature engraves preconceptions in our mind, not memory. And indeed it is clear that, whatever maybe the process of formation of our notions of the gods, they cannot come from repeatedly seeing gods as we see humans, horses, and cows and by memorizing the impressions we have of such natural kinds. Thus with the description given by Cicero, it seems that the preconceptions of the gods is formed quite differently from the empiricist way by which we form a preconception of a cow. It is implanted by nature and does not seem to have an empirical origin. It is not the case in Cicero that the prolepsis is built on memory nor in such a way that “the senses give the lead” (προηγουμένων τῶν αἰσθήσεων). It remains that both kinds of preconceptions are sketches or delineation of things, engraved in the mind and preliminary to enquiry and discussion.

Post by “Cassius” of December 17, 2024 at 11:12 AM

This book popped up today on my list of things to read. It's probably the most recent compilation of significant new articles on Epicurus out there, so I hope we're going to find some interesting material in it.

If anyone has a chance to skim through it and see anything particularly interesting please post -- that would help in prioritizing reading.

Volume 1 -

1. Thinking or Speaking: The Paradoxes of the Epicurean Theory of Language 15 Julie Giovacchini
2. Language Theory, Scientific Terminology, and Linguistic Controversies in Epicurus' On Nature 39 Francesca Masi

3. Epicurus and His Meteorological Lexicon in the Letter to Pythocles: Some Remarks 65
Dino De Sanctis
4. The Fragments of Epicurus' Letters: Scientific Debates and New Perspectives 81
Margherita Erbì
5. Lucretius' Epistemological Language 105 Chiara Rover
6. Medicine and Responsibility: Hippocratic and Democritean Influences on Epicurus' Περὶ φύσεως Book XXV? 141 Enrico Piergiacomì
7. Medicine and Atomism: Asclepiades of Bithynia and Epicurean Science 167 David Leith
8. Patterns of Reception of Epicureanism in Galen's Writings 187 Vincenzo Damiani
9. Gravity and the Shape and Location of the Earth 211 David Konstan
10. The Method of Multiple Explanations Revisited 221 Voula TsounaVI Contents
11. The Explanation of Meteorological Phenomena in the Philosophical Inscription of Diogenes of Oinoanda 257 Jürgen Hammerstaedt
12. Gassendi's Interpretation of Epicurus' Method of Multiple Explanations: Between Scepticism and Probabilism 277 Frederik Bakker
13. Observation, Probabilism, and Humanist Methods of History in Pierre Gassendi's Meteorology 309 Craig Martin

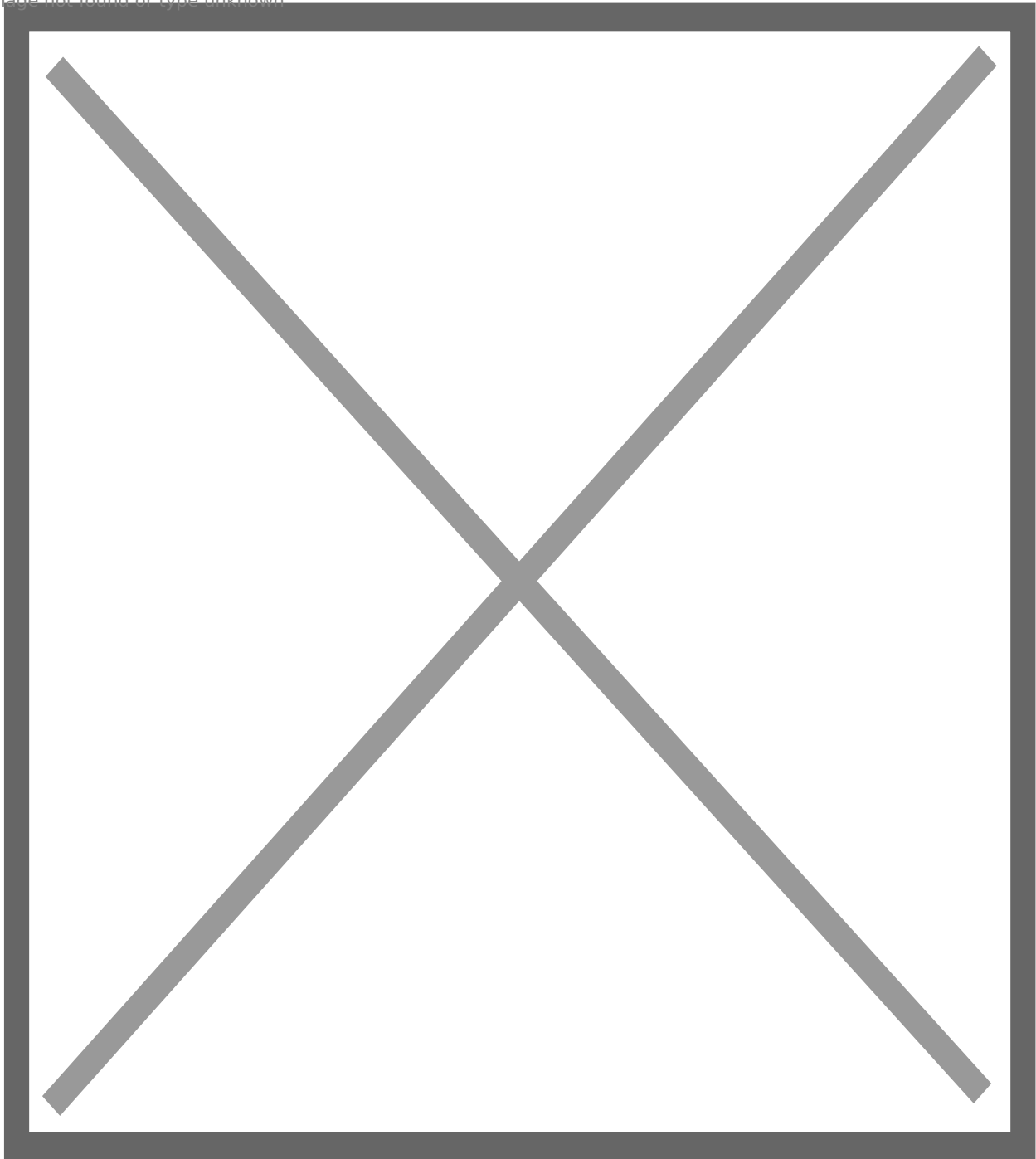
Volume 2 -

1. The Scientific Lexicon in Epicurus, On Nature XI: Some Observations 11 Giuliana Leone
2. Epicurean akribeia 25 Pierre-Marie Morel
3. Epicurus on the Arts and Sciences: A Reappraisal 47 Geert Roskam
4. Τὸ προσμένον: Epicurus' Propositional Theory of Truth 67 Francesco Verde
5. The Elaboration of Prolepsis between Epicurus and the Stoics: A Common Challenge to Innatism? 83 Jean-Baptiste Gourinat
6. Science, Ethics, and ἀνάγκη in Epicurean Thought 119 Phillip Mitsis

Post by "Don" of December 17, 2024 at 2:15 PM

Related to Chapter 10?

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[British School at Athens : Voula Tsouna, "Issues in Epicurean philosophy of mind and science 2: The method of multiple explanations in Epicureanism"](#)

Voula Tsouna, "Issues in Epicurean philosophy of mind and science 2: The method of multiple explanations in Epicureanism" Professor Voula Tsouna (University of...

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Post by “Don” of December 17, 2024 at 2:19 PM

See also

[British School at Athens : Voula Tsouna, “Issues in Epicurean philosophy of mind and science 1: The Epicurean notion of ‘επιβολή’”](#)

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Post by “Cassius” of April 22, 2026 at 6:35 AM

This appears to be a different link for the same book discussed previously. Thanks to Kalosyni for finding it:

[Project MUSE - Epicureanism and Scientific Debates. Epicurean Tradition and its Ancient Reception](#)