

Elenchus

Gender	Hero	Allegiance	Role	Apparent Age
Male	No	Ancient Ashium	Philosopher	Ancient

Stories/Function

Elenchus serves as the foundational intellectual pillar for higher education in [Dael Riata](#). His teachings form the basis of the “less dangerous arts” curriculum at the [University of Dalreoch](#) and the [University of Caer Riata](#). As an ancient figure his primary narrative function is to represent the classical academic tradition that shapes the minds of the Daelian nobility, including [King Alasdair V](#) and [Diarmid Murchadh](#).

Description

Elenchus was an ancient philosopher hailing from the early civilisations of the warmer regions surrounding the central sea. His era predates the established histories of the northern kingdoms, placing him in a semi-legendary past.

The fundamental basis of Elenchist thought is the assertion that **absolute knowledge is impossible**. He taught that human perception is inherently limited and that true wisdom does not come from the accumulation of facts, but from the recognition of one's own limitations. According to Elenchus, acknowledging one's own ignorance is the only valid path toward truth.

His teachings are characterised by a rigorous method of questioning, intended to strip away false certainties and reveal the underlying ignorance of the student. This pursuit of “self-knowledge” is a requirement for any student seeking a Master of Arts degree in the Daelian universities.

Core Aphorisms:

- “The only thing I can be certain of is that I do not know anything.”
- “The path to truth begins with the acknowledgement of ignorance.”
- “Certainty is the death of knowledge”

Personal Life

As an ancient figure, details involving Elenchus personal life are scant, little is known other than he was a prominent citizen in ancient Ashium. His legacy is entirely academic and spiritual. However, in modern politics, his philosophy is sometimes used as a shield by advisors and scholars who wish to avoid giving direct answers to the Sovereign, leading to the occasional dismissal of “Elenchist dodgery” by more pragmatic lords.

Relationships

People

- [King Alasdair V](#): A royal student of Elenchist philosophy during his university years.
- [Diarmid Murchadh](#): A Master of Arts who studied Elenchus extensively at Dalreoch.
- [Tatù](#): A modern political theorist whose pragmatic “armed diplomacy” often stands in stark contrast to Elenchist introspection.

Places

- [University of Dalreoch](#): The primary centre for the study of the Elenchist tradition in the north.
- [University of Caer Riata](#): An institution with a heavy focus on the divinity and philosophies inspired by Elenchus.
- [Dael Riata](#): The kingdom where his cultural value on literacy and education remains a core tenet of society.

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