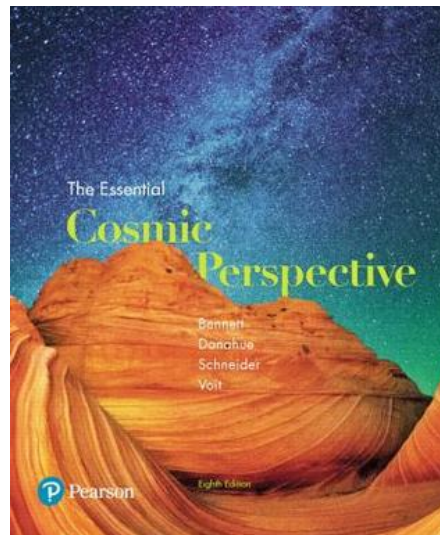




The Essential Cosmic Perspective

Jeffrey O. Bennett , Nicholas Schneider , Mark Voit , Megan O. Donohue

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For one-semester courses in astronomy. A practical introduction to Astronomy with an emphasis on critical thinking about our place in the universe This **8th Edition** of *Essential Cosmic Perspective* provides readers without science backgrounds with a streamlined, cutting-edge introduction to astronomy. Built on a strong tradition of effective pedagogy and coverage, the text focuses on skill-building and includes group work exercises that require active participation. Dedicated to bringing an understanding of the universe, its scientific basis and its relevance to our lives, each chapter is written to specific learning goals that build an ideal learning path for readers. Aiming to foster a lifelong learning experience, the authors focus on key concepts, providing big picture context, promoting conceptual understanding, and preferring plain language to jargon. The **8th Edition** incorporates the latest scientific updates in the field of astronomy and includes new features that reinforce critical thinking and excite readers curiosity. New features such as **Extraordinary Claims** engage readers by presenting extraordinary claims about the universe and how they were either supported or debunked as scientists collected more evidence, reinforcing the process of science and how scientists think critically to evaluate them. **My Cosmic Perspective** establishes a personal connection between readers and the cosmos as they learn to think critically about the meaning of what they learn in their astronomy studies and beyond. Designed and written for a one semester course, this text shares many of the strengths of its more comprehensive best-selling sibling, *The Cosmic Perspective* . **Also available with MasteringAstronomy** MasteringAstronomy is the leading online homework, tutorial, and assessment system, designed to improve results by engaging students with vetted, interactive content. Instructors ensure students arrive ready to learn by assigning new Interactive Prelecture videos that give students exposure to key concepts before class and open classroom time for active learning or deeper discussions of topics. With Learning Catalyticsinstructors can expand on key concepts and encourage student engagement during lecture through questions answered individually or in pairs and groups. Students further master concepts through book-specific MasteringAstronomy assignments, which provide hints and answer-specific feedback that build problem-solving skills. MasteringAstronomy now features Virtual Astronomy Labs, providing assignable online laboratory activities that use Stellarium and Interactive Figures. **Note:** You are purchasing a standalone product; MyLab & Mastering does not come packaged with this content. Students, if interested in purchasing this title with MyLab & Mastering, ask your instructor for the correct package ISBN and Course ID. Instructors, contact your Pearson representative for more information. If you would like to purchase both the physical text and MyLab & Mastering, search for: **0134516338 / 9780134516332 Essential Cosmic Perspective Plus MasteringAstronomy with eText, The -- Access Card Package**
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Joshua says

The Essential Cosmic Perspective gives an excellent conceptual overview of astronomy at an introductory level. I'd recommend it for astronomy 101 or similar or for enthusiasts looking for a well written survey of modern astronomy. I use it for my classes.

Alex Mortensen says

Intro to Astronomy textbook. Extremely interesting, however long, read.

Whiteeagle says

my text book for this semester

Bob Nichols says

We see often enough T-shirts, posters or post cards of the Milky Way with the exclamatory dot, "You are here!", indicating the relative insignificance of humans in the cosmos. Our life, on Earth, in our solar system, exists within a vast sea of other solar systems. The Bennett text puts this picture, itself, in perspective. Our Milky Way galaxy is part of a local group of galaxies that, in turn, is part of a super cluster of galaxies, in a "known universe" among many, many such super clusters. For perspective, the Milky Way is over 100 billion stars, and the universe contains something like 80 billion galaxies. Bennett et al. surveys this cosmic reality, taking it from its foundations in Newtonian physics through the world of quantum physics. The subject matter, both the totally foreign reality of astronomy and the known or suspected physical laws by which it operates, is intimidating. But these authors understand how to present this material to first-time readers, and in ways to capture and retain their attention. At the end of the text, after reviewing the main theories about the increasingly dark future for the universe, the authors write that "a few creative thinkers speculate about ways in which the universe might undergo rebirth, even after the end of time." That's great stuff for the imagination. This is a great text book.

Lasynda Shichiroji says

Good beginners book for people seriously interested in astronomy

Abigail says

Not bad for a textbook. I do not agree with many parts of the book but it was not as hard to read as many textbooks are. Very good pictures and illustrations throughout.

Ananya Garg says

I used this textbook for my Astronomy class, I enjoyed the beautiful images and relatively easy to understand language. A great beginner's guide to the field of astronomy for someone who might be interested.

Daniel says

Absolutely phenomenal book. Super interesting and is a textbook I would actually read in my own time, instead of only for class.

Mollie says

Reader Interest before this course 0. After 8. This book was a pretty good textbook. Good pictures and help for the non science major studying Astronomy.

K Todd Ramer says

This was the first book assigned as reading for my Astronomy course at the University of Arizona. The semester just finished and I gotta say, this book was amazing. The knowledge contained within is the Universe in it's most understandable terms.

Would highly recommend to anyone looking for a basic, fundamental understanding of how everything works.

K.
