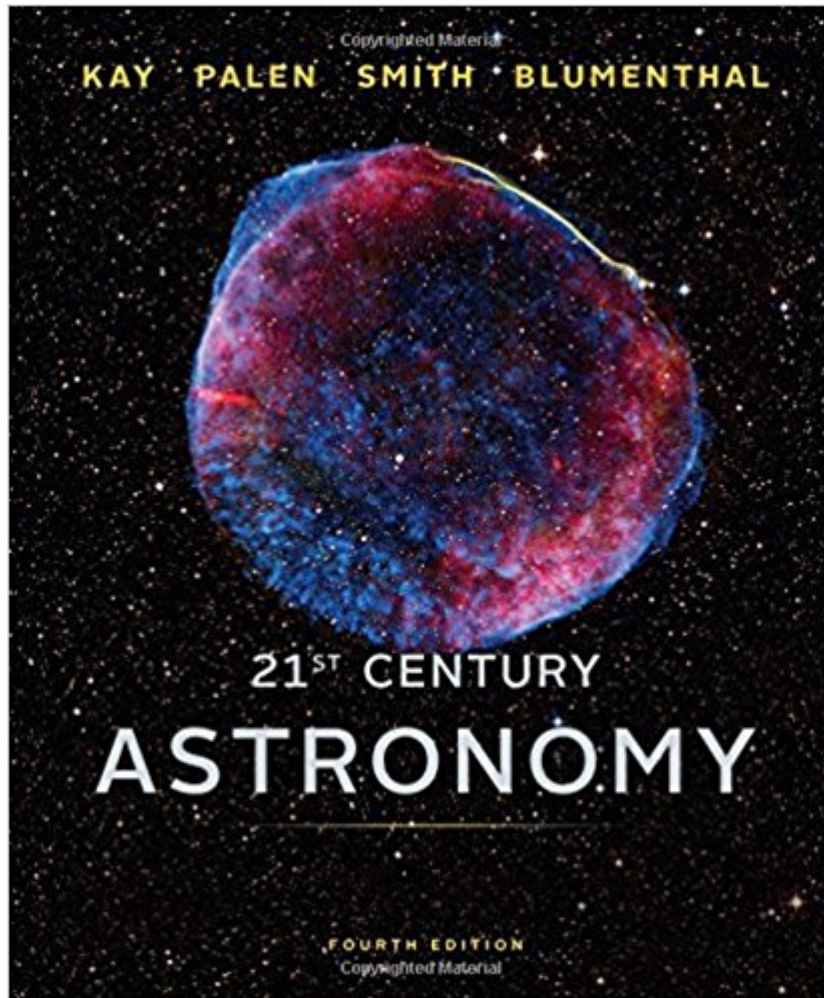




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# 21st Century Astronomy (Full Fourth Edition)



## Synopsis

Teaches students to think like scientists. Authors Laura Kay and Stacy Palen have developed pedagogy that helps students understand the process of science, and how physical principles are used to discover the origins of the universe. The authors emphasize how we know what we know in the figures, text, and end-of-chapter material.

## Book Information

Paperback: 856 pages

Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company; 4 edition (February 6, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0393918785

ISBN-13: 978-0393918786

Product Dimensions: 9.1 x 1.2 x 10.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 11 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #20,459 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #31 in [Books > Textbooks > Science & Mathematics > Astronomy & Astrophysics](#) #57 in [Books > Science & Math > Astronomy & Space Science > Astronomy](#)

## Customer Reviews

Laura Kay is Ann Whitney Olin professor and Chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Barnard College, where she has taught since 1991. She received a BS degree in physics and an AB degree in feminist studies from Stanford University, and MS and PhD degrees in astronomy and astrophysics from the University of California—Santa Cruz. As a graduate student she spent 13 months at the Amundsen Scott station at the South Pole in Antarctica, and has had fellowships in Chile and Brazil. She studies active galactic nuclei using optical and X-ray telescopes. At Barnard she teaches courses on astronomy, astrobiology, women and science, and polar exploration. Stacy Palen is an award-winning professor in the Physics Department and Director of the Ott Planetarium at Weber State University. She received her BS degree from Rutgers University, and her PhD from the University of Iowa. Dr. Palen does research in the death of Sun-like stars, and formal and informal astronomy education. She spends much of her time thinking, teaching, and writing about the applications of science in everyday life. She then puts that science to use on her small farm in Ogden, Utah. Brad Smith is a retired professor of planetary science. He has served as an associate professor of astronomy at New Mexico State University, a professor of

planetary sciences and astronomy at the University of Arizona, and as a research astronomer at the University of Hawaii. Through his interest in Solar System astronomy, he has participated as a team member or imaging team leader on several U.S. and international space missions, including Mars Mariners 6, 7, and 9; Viking; Voyagers 1 and 2; and the Soviet Vega and Phobos missions. He later turned his interest to extrasolar planetary systems, investigating circumstellar debris disks as a member of the Hubble Space Telescope NICMOS experiment team. Brad has four times been awarded the NASA Medal for Exceptional Scientific Achievement. He is a member of the IAU Working Group for Planetary System Nomenclature and is Chair of the Task Group for Mars Nomenclature. George Blumenthal is chancellor at the University of California – Santa Cruz, where he has been a professor of astronomy and astrophysics since 1972. Chancellor Blumenthal received his BS degree from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee and his PhD in physics from the University of California – San Diego. As a theoretical astrophysicist, Chancellor Blumenthal's research encompasses several broad areas, including the nature of the dark matter that constitutes most of the mass in the universe, the origin of galaxies and other large structures in the universe, the earliest moments in the universe, astrophysical radiation processes, and the structure of active galactic nuclei such as quasars.

My fiancé got this for her courses at college. I can't really review this on her behalf, because I didn't read/use this book. But hey, she passed her course so this must work!

Textbook for a class. Exactly as advertised, arrived in pristine condition.

I had to buy this book for my stellar astronomy class. It's an intro level class, so it's not super difficult, and, if you've taken a physics class before, some of the information is just review. The authors do try to keep it interesting, though. There are a lot of diagrams/pictures and some excellent explanations of the math involved.

Good amount of typos and errors wow

Bought this for my college class. Does a great job illustrating and explaining astronomy and related science. Highly recommend the book and class.

This elementary text is thorough, but readable, geared to learners new to the subject It draws

comparisons with US American and international practice. There is lots of handy reference material, easily accessed. The SmartWork online program is user friendly. I find the very heavy (3 lb.) paper-bound format (9" x 11") awkward and uncomfortable. I have had to set up a lectern beside my computer because the book would rip itself apart if I tried to hold it in one hand while flipping through pages with the other. I am most enchanted by the authors' contention that we are all made of stardust. CLJ

Loved the price. But it is a college book. May sell this at the end of the semester. But then again, this teacher may convince me to keep it for my "kids" that I don't have.

Had bought it for school so i could avoid the loose leaf my college was selling, and i'm so glad i did. I plan on keeping this forever.

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