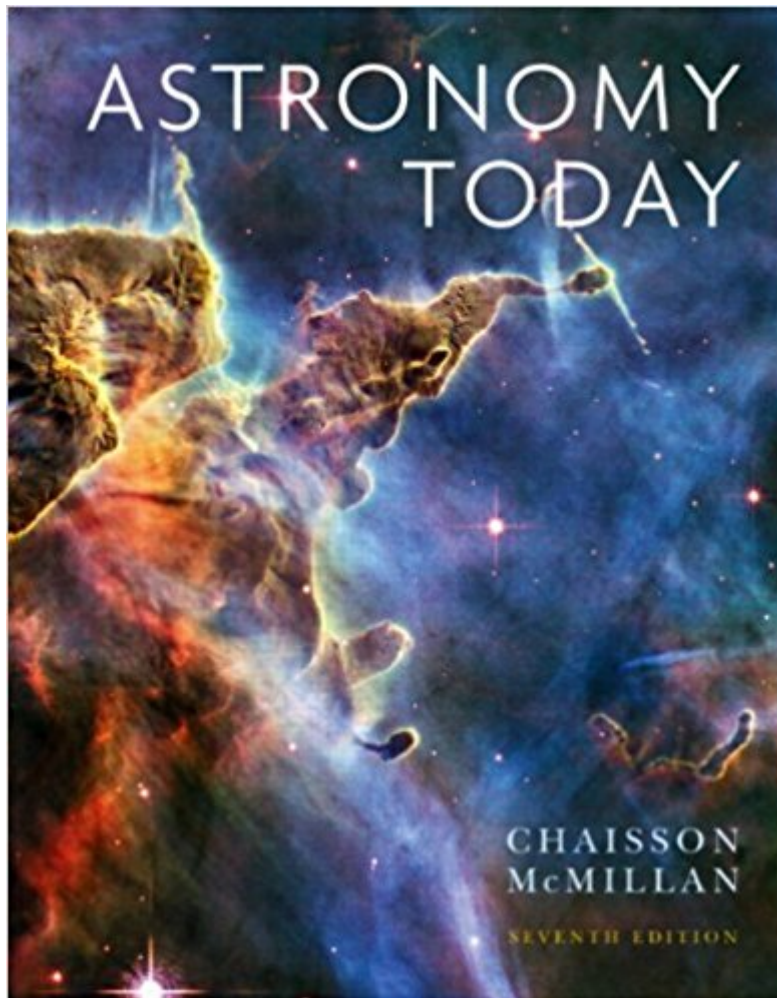




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Astronomy Today (7th Edition)



Synopsis

With *Astronomy Today, Seventh Edition*, trusted authors Eric Chaisson and Steve McMillan communicate their excitement about astronomy and awaken you to the universe around you. The text emphasizes critical thinking and visualization, and it focuses on the process of scientific discovery, making “how we know what we know” an integral part of the text. The revised edition has been thoroughly updated with the latest astronomical discoveries and theories, and it has been streamlined to keep you focused on the essentials and to develop an understanding of the “big picture.”

Alternate Versions

Astronomy Today, Volume 1: The Solar System, Seventh Edition

- Focuses primarily on planetary coverage for a 1-term course. Includes Chapters 1-16, 28.

Astronomy Today, Volume 2: Stars and Galaxies, Seventh Edition

- Focuses primarily on stars and stellar evolution for a 1-term course. Includes Chapters 1-5 and 16-28.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Eric Chaisson received his Ph.D. from and taught at Harvard for a number of years in Astrophysics. He is now associated with Tufts and Harvard. Eric has written nine books and received a number of literary awards along the way. Steve McMillan, a former Ph.D. candidate of Eric Chaisson, is a professor of Physics at Drexel University.

I did not purchase this for a class, but as a new backyard stargazer that wanted to learn about astronomy in a little more depth than is provided in books like "Nightwatch". It is a textbook,

obviously. However, I have found it to be a very accessible and enjoyable read with many fantastic illustrations to reinforce the concepts that it presents. Bear in mind that this is not a coffee table book, but a serious text of 750+ pages written to present, not just Astronomy, but the scientific method and observational evidence-based thinking to a collegiate audience of non-science majors. I am finding it to be a comprehensive treatment of astronomy, our solar system and the cosmos at large without being overwhelming. Astronomy Today will be a very rewarding read for those willing to put the time into it.

This is the first astronomy text that I have read. I found it to be excellent. The illustrations are very well chosen & complement the text well. The style of writing is pleasant. I preferred it to the novel that I was also reading! It is light on math but there is so much for a novice to learn that was probably best. Each chapter is around 20 pages which for an easy 1 day read.

This is a textbook, and covers the field very nicely. The organization is from the introduction of Earth, Moon and sky orientation, eclipses, and the like in the first chapter, to covering the Solar System in several chapters, including a chapter devoted to the Earth from a planetary perspective, to examining the life cycle of stars. In my Curriculum, the first part of the book is a 4 hour Planetary course, and the second part is a 4 hour Stellar course. The depth of information presented definitely calls for the 2 courses. The 28 chapters would be very difficult to cover in a single course. This book seems to be very complete as a source for information about the Universe, but is definitely introductory in nature. A professional Astronomer would find it quite basic.

love it

Good book to learn from

Great introduction to Astronomy. Recommended for those who love the stars, but maybe don't love all the physics that go along with it!

This book on astronomy is written in an easy-to-read format that keeps the subject from being boring. I bought it for my son, who is a junior in highschool and being homeschooled. He really likes the book and is learning well from it. And since he loves math, he is intrigued by its use in this subject. Sometimes he just has to explain to his dad what he's learning and gets into a "teaching

mode" and sounds like a professor. I love to see him so thoroughly enjoying learning! As I mentioned, the format is great, and the pictures are terrific and numerous. The writer has a relaxed, yet informative style that keeps you interested. The subject matter is broad; just what I hoped for in a book on astronomy. I paid almost as much on a dvd that was supposed to be enough material for grades 6-12, but was a real disappointment. I cannot recommend this book more highly. The questions at the end of each section are very pertinent and enhance the learning experience. A real plus! Much thanks to Mr. Eric Chaisson for an absolutely tremendous book on astronomy!

I've never taken an astronomy class during college, and it's something I've been interested in lately. This is a great book and covers all the areas. It includes some basic math. For those who want a less detailed book, they have a new book called Astronomy: The Universe at a Glance (in Kindle or paperback).

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