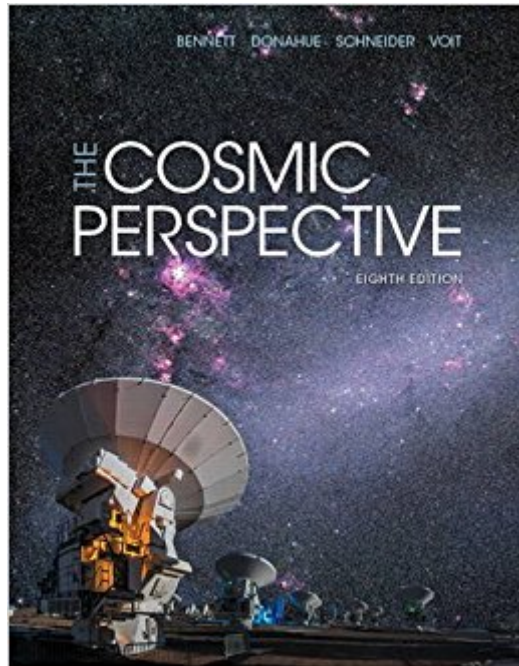


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# The Cosmic Perspective (8th Edition)



## Synopsis

NOTE: Access Code NOT INCLUDED For two-semester courses in astronomy. **Teaching the Process of Science through Astronomy** Building on a long tradition of effective pedagogy and comprehensive coverage, **The Cosmic Perspective, Eighth Edition** provides a thoroughly engaging and up-to-date introduction to astronomy for non-science majors. This text offers a wealth of features that enhance student understanding of the process of science and actively engage students in the learning process for key concepts. The fully updated Eighth Edition includes the latest scientific discoveries, revises several subjects based on our most current understanding of the cosmos, and now emphasizes deeper understanding of the twists and turns of the process of science and the relevance of concepts to student's lives. This text is also available in two volumes, which can be purchased separately: **The Cosmic Perspective: The Solar System, Eighth Edition** (includes Chapters 1-13, 14, S1, 24) **The Cosmic Perspective: Stars, Galaxies, and Cosmology, Eighth Edition** (includes Chapters 1-3, S1, 4-6, S2-S4, 14-24) Also available with **MasteringAstronomy** MasteringAstronomy from Pearson is the leading online homework, tutorial, and assessment system, designed to improve results by engaging students before, during, and after class with powerful content. Instructors ensure students arrive ready to learn by assigning educationally effective content before class, and encourage critical thinking and retention with in-class resources. Students can further master concepts after class through homework assignments that provide interactivity, hints and answer-specific feedback. The Mastering gradebook records scores for all automatically graded assignments in one place, while diagnostic tools give instructors access to rich data to assess student understanding and misconceptions. Mastering brings learning full circle by continuously adapting to each student and making learning more personal than ever before, during, and after class. **Note:** You are purchasing a standalone product; MasteringAstronomy does not come packaged with this content. Students, if interested in purchasing this title with MasteringAstronomy, 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 MasteringAstronomy, search for: 0134058291 / 9780134058290 **Cosmic Perspective Plus MasteringAstronomy with eText -- Access Card Package**, The Package consists of: 0134059069 / 9780134059068 **Cosmic Perspective, The** 0134080572 / 9780134080574 **MasteringAstronomy with Pearson eText -- ValuePack Access Card -- for The Cosmic Perspective** 0321765184 / 9780321765185 **SkyGazer 5.0 Student Access Code Card** (Integrated component)

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Jeffrey Bennett, a recipient of the American Institute of Physics Science Communication Award, holds a B.A. in biophysics (UC San Diego) and an M.S. and Ph.D. in astrophysics (University of Colorado). He specializes in science and math education and has taught at every level from preschool through graduate school. Career highlights including serving 2 years as a visiting senior scientist at NASA headquarters, where he developed programs to build stronger links between research and education, and proposing and helping to develop the Voyage scale model solar system on the National Mall (Washington, DC). He is the lead author of textbooks in astronomy, astrobiology, mathematics, and statistics, and of critically acclaimed books for the public including *Beyond UFOs* (Princeton University Press, 2008/2011), *Math for Life* (Big Kid Science, 2014), *What Is Relativity?* (Columbia University Press, 2014), and *On Teaching Science* (Big Kid Science, 2014). In 2014, his five children's books (*Max Goes to the Space Station*, *Max Goes to the Moon*, *Max Goes to Mars*, *Max Goes to Jupiter*, and *The Wizard Who Saved the World*) became the first books launched to the International Space Station for the Story Time From Space program. He and his family live in Boulder, Colorado. His personal website is [www.jeffreybennett.com](http://www.jeffreybennett.com).  
Megan Donahue is a professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Michigan State University and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Her current research is mainly about using X-ray, UV, infrared, and visible light to study clusters of galaxies: their contents "dark matter, hot gas, galaxies, active galactic nuclei" and what they reveal about the contents of the universe and how galaxies form and evolve. She grew up on a farm in Nebraska and

received an S.B. in physics from MIT, where she began her research career as an X-ray astronomer. She has a Ph.D. in astrophysics from the University of Colorado. Her Ph.D. thesis on theory and optical observations of intergalactic and intracluster gas won the 1993 Trumpler Award from the Astronomical Society for the Pacific for an outstanding astrophysics doctoral dissertation in North America. She continued postdoctoral research as a Carnegie Fellow at Carnegie Observatories in Pasadena, California, and later as an STScI Fellow at Space Telescope. Megan was a staff astronomer at the Space Telescope Science Institute until 2003, when she joined the MSU faculty. Megan is married to Mark Voit, and they collaborate on many projects, including this textbook and the raising of their children, Michaela, Sebastian, and Angela. Between the births of Sebastian and Angela, Megan qualified for and ran the Boston Marathon. These days, Megan runs trails, orienteers, and plays piano and bass guitar whenever her children allow it. Â Nicholas Schneider is an associate professor in the Department of Astrophysical and Planetary Sciences at the University of Colorado and a researcher in the Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics. He received his B.A. in physics and astronomy from Dartmouth College in 1979 and his Ph.D. in planetary science from the University of Arizona in 1988. In 1991, he received the National Science Foundationâ€™s Presidential Young Investigator Award. His research interests include planetary atmospheres and planetary astronomy. One research focus is the odd case of Jupiterâ€™s moon Io. Another is the mystery of Marsâ€™ lost atmosphere, which he hopes to answer by serving as science lead on the Imaging UV Spectrograph on NASAâ€™s MAVEN mission. Nick enjoys teaching at all levels and is active in efforts to improve undergraduate astronomy education. In 2010, he received the Boulder Faculty Assemblyâ€™s Teaching Excellence Award. Off the job, Nick enjoys exploring the outdoors with his family and figuring out how things work. Â Mark Voit is a professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy and Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies in the College of Natural Science at Michigan State University. He earned his A.B. in astrophysical sciences at Princeton University and his Ph.D. in astrophysics at the University of Colorado in 1990. He continued his studies at the California Institute of Technology, where he was a research fellow in theoretical astrophysics, and then moved on to Johns Hopkins University as a Hubble Fellow. Before going to Michigan State, Mark worked in the Office of Public Outreach at the Space Telescope, where he developed museum exhibitions about the Hubble Space Telescope and helped design NASAâ€™s award-winning HubbleSite. His research interests range from interstellar processes in our own galaxy to the clustering of galaxies in the early universe, and he is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is married to coauthor Megan Donahue, and cooks terrific meals for her and their three children. Mark likes getting outdoors

whenever possible and particularly enjoys running, mountain biking, canoeing, orienteering, and adventure racing. He is also author of the popular book Hubble Space Telescope: New Views of the Universe. Â

The book is fine, however, the access code did not match the class ID code so had to buy another digital copy for another \$93. The book companies and school sure do have a good racket going on....

I was actually pretty surprised that out of all the textbooks I ordered this semester, this one was the most understandable. I'm sure that this is just an overview of what are incredibly complicated theories, but the writing isn't TOO boring and actually explains astronomy in a way that makes sense. Be careful ordering, though - there are what seems like a billion different editions of this book in addition to a textbook called "The Cosmic Perspective" (no essential) and many places will get ISBN numbers confused, so double check your syllabus to make sure the title matches. Additionally, do NOT depend on the access code enclosed to actually match whatever your online lab is; I wound up having to order one separately because they were not the same.

This book was everything I needed for my astronomy class, it has such a huge source of vocabulary and helped so much on the online course we had to take my class. It was a little disappointing that some people got an access code with their books and other didn't, including me but it was a great book to use.

I am extremely unsatisfied with my rental of this book. It arrived in marginally passable condition but without the access code it was listed as having. I then had to log into the pearson sight and purchase the access code. It would have been cheaper if I had just rented through the book store on campus and I could have ensured that I was receiving the materials I needed. Debating returning the book and just using the etext copy that the pearson subscription comes with.

Great condition there were only a couple pages with bends in them. I took a star off because the listing is technically wrong. This is not a paper back, it was a binder (loose leaf) edition. Other than that, very satisfied!

Ordered the product as new and from . Unlike others, my access code worked fine and the book

arrived in an unused condition. However, I purchased the book and not just the access code because I like reading from a textbook and being able to mark it, especially when the material gets complicated. Now that I am entering finals time and reading the last chapters I have discovered that about 200 pages (Skips from Chapter 14 to Chapter 24) are missing from the book.

A great astronomy textbook that strikes a wonderful balance between complexity and being understandable. Excellent and challenging post chapter questions. I am truly impressed with all chapters and the two chapters on Special Relativity are very clear and really enjoyable. The Mathematical Insights spread through out the book are great reviews and well explained.

I purchased this for a college class. It is a good textbook. It has great illustrations that are very helpful. It is well-written. I love that it has online aspects that go with it, so that the activities and the book really go together. Some of the organization of the chapters and sections seems a little goofy, but overall I think this is a good book.

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