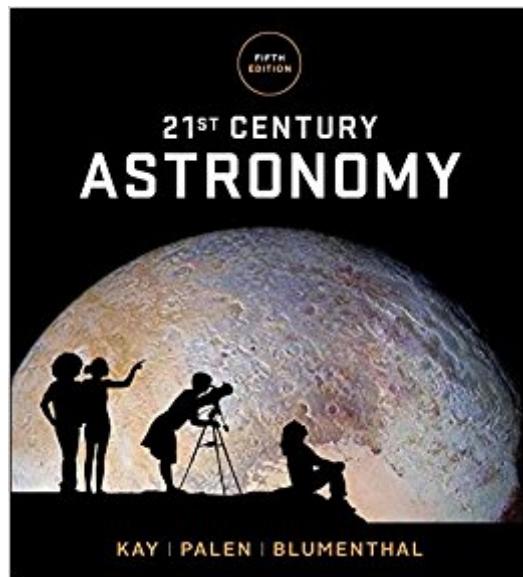


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Paperback: 816 pages

Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company; 5 edition (February 9, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0393603326

ISBN-13: 978-0393603323

Product Dimensions: 9.6 x 1.2 x 10.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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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 Californiaâ “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. George Blumenthal is chancellor at the University of Californiaâ “Santa Cruz, where he has been a professor of astronomy and astrophysics since 1972. Chancellor Blumenthal received

his BS degree from the University of Wisconsinâ "Milwaukee and his PhD in physics from the University of Californiaâ "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.

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