Pre-20th-Century Cosmology *Kolb, Blind Watchers of the Sky*

January 8: Introduction to models, theories, and laws. Introduction to cosmology, introduction to the universe, and a look at the sky. Greek astronomy through Ptolemy. Retrograde motion, epicycles, the Greek universe. Prelude to Copernicus.


January 22: No class


February 5: Galileo: *The Dialogue* (excerpt performed in class). The trial (performed in class).


February 26: A brief history of vision. Light: wave or corpuscle? The mysterious realm of the quantum. Schrödinger’s cat (dead, alive, or both?). Heisenberg is uncertain.

20th-Century Cosmology *Perlov & Vilenkin, Cosmology for the Curious*

March 5: Hubble discovers the expansion of space. The cosmological principle. An explosion without a center or an edge. Space and time. Einstein’s Theories of Relativity.
