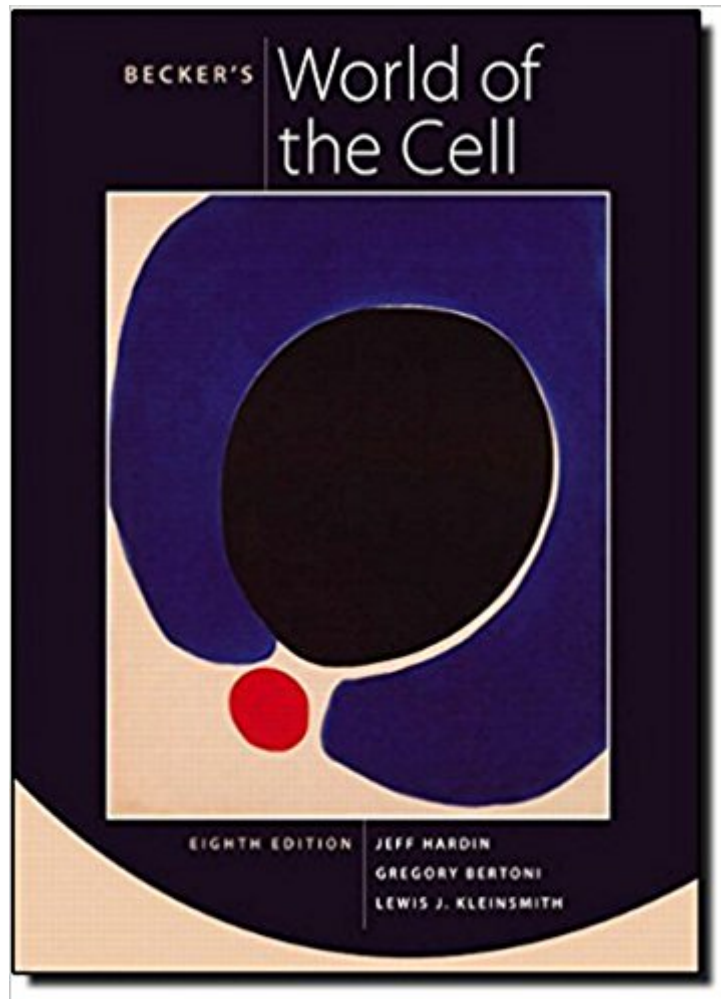


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Becker's World Of The Cell (8th Edition)



Synopsis

Widely praised for its strong biochemistry coverage, Becker's World of the Cell, Eighth Edition, provides a clear, up-to-date introduction to cell biology concepts, processes, and applications. Informed by many years of teaching the introductory cell biology course, the authors have added new emphasis on modern genetic/genomic/proteomic approaches to cell biology while using clear language to ensure that students comprehend the material. Becker's World of the Cell provides accessible and authoritative descriptions of all major principles, as well as unique scientific insights into visualization and applications of cell biology.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have owned numerous cell biology textbooks, and this series has always been my favorite. This edition, and the 2 earlier editions of this series that I've owned, strikes a perfect balance between technicalities and general information. One other cell biology text I owned (I suppose graduate level) jumped right into complex material and anyone not already familiar with the basics of cell biology would be completely lost; and its coverage was extremely technical. Another cell biology text series - of which I owned 2 in the series - had poor diagrams/graphics and was not all that well organized. "The World of the Cell" series (which recently changed its name to "Becker's World of the Cell") starts the reader off with the basics, progresses slowly and logically, and has very good diagrams/graphics. And while it does discuss technical details, it is not weighed down by them; and

the language used is intermediate - they use cell biology terms but don't cram so many into a single sentence that one has to jump back and forth through the text looking up term after term to figure out what a sentence means. PS: I have both the 7th and 8th editions. I kept notes from the 7th edition and when I look at the same page numbers in the 8th edition, the same noted material is there ... each of the dozen or so pages I checked in the 7th edition maps to the same page in the 8th edition, even up into the page 600's. So if you are not buying this for a class, you might consider buying the 7th edition as it should be cheaper. I don't know what updated information you'd be losing out on, though.

Becker World of the Cell strikes a perfect balance for my Cell biology course. It has basic information for students who are 2-3 years removed from Intro Biology who need to review, yet is challenging to those who are strong in chemistry. Experiments leading to our current knowledge are presented without being overly technical. The references at the ends of chapters is helpful for delving into a bit more depth for those students who want to know more about the experiments. Finally, the questions at the end of the chapters have a nice variety, from recall to analytically challenging. Many of my students also take biochemistry. They report this text gives them clarification on some topics in that course, particularly protein structure, enzymology, and the energetics of membrane transport. For instructors, my major complaint has to do with the test bank. Most test items are way too elementary. I find it useless.

This book is pretty awesome. Tons of depth for an undergraduate level. I really liked the way it's laid out as well. The one huge downfall is that the "Cell Place" that comes with it totally sucks. It makes it seem like there are tons of great videos, 3D graphics and tutorials, etc.... There aren't. What they do have is pretty cheap.

I got this book for an undergraduate Mol & Cell Bio course. It's more in depth than we needed for the class but perfect for reference. I have taken a few biochemistry courses in previous semesters and therefore expected this to have less Math and equations, but I wasn't disappointed. For some reason more mathematical equations help me better visualize the material, probably because I'm a Computer Science major with a biology minor who is more interested in Bioinformatics. Therefore we have equations for calculating Gibb's free energy, and equilibrium reactions (K_{eq}). The book is pretty heavy in biochemistry, but not as heavy as an actual Biochemistry course. I love the Chapter on new lab techniques and Biotechnology (Ch 18), and was happy to see information related to

Bioinformatics.

IF you read this book, you won't ever have to worry about being confused in the cellular or molecular discussion in higher level courses. This book is overly detailed, almost to a fault, but that's probably a good thing so as to introduce the reader to as much as possible. Very frequently, this book discusses breakthrough experiments and studies before talking about an idea. This is good because ideas aren't pulled out of thin air. At the same time, they don't waste too much time on it and they get right to the point. This is an exceptional text book.

I enjoy the book and the way it is set up. The online activities are pretty awful though. I needed a few plug-ins for my browser and even then, the diagrams and activities didn't load properly more often than not.

There isn't a way to jump easily from chapter to chapter. This is a serious pain. Unfortunately this digital version isn't efficiently enhanced by links to find specifically what you are looking for. Overall this is a usable e-book for my course, but it poses some hindrances to my studying fluidity.

good price, good product, good packaging and good delivery time

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