

What was Ancient Greek astronomy?

Ancient Greek Astronomy was the study of the universe to understand how it functioned and why apart from the established theistic model that claimed all things were ordered and maintained by the gods. Ancient Greek astronomers relied on observation and mathematical calculation to determine the operation of the universe and Earth's place within it.

What astronomical ideas did ancient Greece have?

This section offers a tour of some of the astronomical ideas and models from ancient Greece as illustrated in items from the Library of Congress collections. By the 5th century B.C., it was widely accepted that the Earth is a sphere. This is a critical point, as there is a widespread misconception that ancient peoples thought the Earth was flat.

How did Ancient Greek ideas influence modern understandings of the cosmos?

Ancient Greek ideas and systems describing the universe were highly influential to modern understandings of the cosmos. The word cosmos is itself derived from ancient Greek. It had various meanings, such as to dispose and prepare, but especially to order and arrange or to establish.

Who is the greatest Greek astronomer?

The greatest Greek astronomer is Hipparchus of Nicea (l. c. 190-c. 120 BCE). He created accurate models for the motion of the planets, the first star chart, and developed mathematical principles for calculating astronomical events. Who is the Father of Greek Astronomy?

Why are ancient Greek astronomers important?

Ancient Greek astronomers' work is richly documented in the collections of the Library of Congress largely because of the way the Greek tradition of inquiry was continued by the work of Islamic astronomers and then into early modern European astronomy.

Why did Greek astronomers struggle with new territory?

In their time, the Greek astronomers were grappling with new territory at a time when religious authorities were encouraging a theistic interpretation of the universe which made their efforts seem, at best, a silly waste of time and, at worst, an atheistic challenge to Divine Sovereignty.

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Pythagoras placed the spherical Earth at the center of the universe. He developed many ideas in mathematics, for example, the famous "Pythagorean theorem" of right-angled triangles. Since a sphere is the most symmetric and perfect shape, it was natural to Pythagoras that it would describe the Earth and the orbits

of the Sun, the planets, and ...

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We make no apology for including Greek astronomy in our story of physics because astronomy today, more than ever in the past, is accepted as a branch of physics. We need only consider the interrelationships between high-energy physics and cosmology, stellar...

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Aristotle, in particular, championed the idea of a geocentric universe, a belief that stood unchallenged for thousands of years. Then came the mathematicians. Apollonius and Hipparchus pushed the boundaries further. They managed to devise models to predict the movements of the stars and planets with remarkable--to this day--precision.

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Cosmogony is a theory about the origin and development of the cosmos or universe. The word comes from the Greek *kosmos* (from *kosmos*, "the world") and the root of *gignomai* ("to be born, come about"). It is different from cosmology, which is the study of the universe structure as a ...

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