

You have a couple of options if you prefer not to buy a new copy of the 4th edition of the textbook:

1. For about half price you can get either an electronic copy (to download to a single computer), or an online version that you can access from any computer with an internet connection. I think each of these options expires after 180 days, so, unlike a print copy, you can't sell the book used when the course is over. If you are interested in these options you can find more information and purchase one of them at: http://www.coursesmart.com/9780538733489?_professorview=false&_instructor=3161338

2. People have asked if you can use the 3rd edition. It is not optimal because the 4th edition has substantial changes, including new material, different order of chapters, different problem sets (for homework assignments), updated examples, and a variety of other changes throughout. However, it would be possible to use the 3rd edition for the basic material, if you are also willing to go a couple times a week to the Science library, where there are multiple copies of the 4th edition on 2-hour reserve. You will need to use those to read the new material and xerox the homework assignments. (Homework will be assigned with each lecture and is due once a week.)

3. A few students have asked if you can use the International 4th Edition. I was not familiar with that one, so I asked the publisher. Apparently that edition is not legally sold in the United States. It is similar to the regular 4th edition, except that some of the exercise numbers are different. This means that you will need to compare the exercises with the ones in the reserve copies in the library to make sure you are doing the correct homework assignment.