

# Math 134: Cryptography

## Lecture 1

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University of California, Santa Cruz

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# Introduction

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# Syllabus

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Objectives:

1. learn how to apply concepts from number theory to cryptography,
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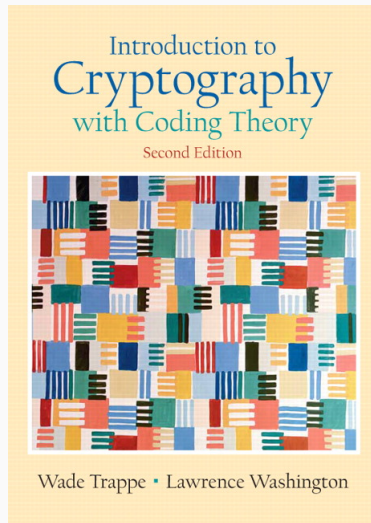
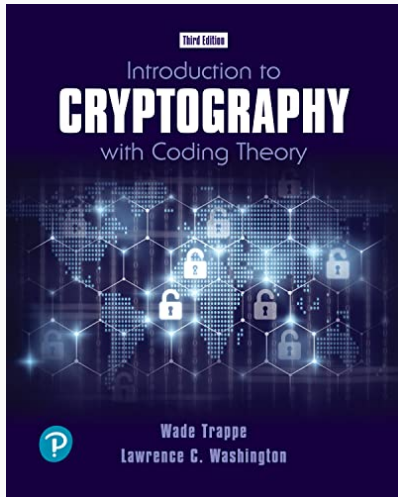
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What do you get out of the course?

1. Abstractly: as much as you put in
2. Concretely: IBM cryptography certification [optional]

# Textbook(s)



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5. **Final Project(1): 20%**

Report on chosen topic from syllabus list.

# Cryptography

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- A *cipher* is a function which converts *plaintext* to *ciphertext*.  
E.g. a shift cipher on the english alphabet (shifting by 2) applied to the message above yields **Vjku ku c oguucig.**

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- Send the new ciphertext.

# Shift ciphers

## Example

We can implement a shift cipher with  $k = 2$  by filling out the table below.

Plaintext	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	...	x	y	z
$j$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	...	23	24	25
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## Check

$a$  goes to  $c$ ,  $e$  goes to  $g$ ,  $m$  goes to  $o$ , etc.

Suppose that we're given the ciphertext **Gcvrjv ivru kyv sffb** and we're told that this text was generated from a shift cipher with shift  $k = 17$ .

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The ciphertext message **Gcvrjv ivru kyv sffb** is decoded to recover the plaintext message **Please read the book.**

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- In our example, the space of all possible keys for the algorithm was the set of integers  $1 \leq k \leq 25$ . This is called the *keyspace*.

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- **Chosen plaintext:** If Eve is allowed to choose plaintext that will be converted to ciphertext, then any character can be sent to give the key.
- **Chosen ciphertext:** If Eve can choose one piece of ciphertext to decode, then the negative of the result can be used to deduce the encryption key.