

Cryptology Syllabus for graduate and advanced undergraduate Students in Math. & CS Majors

“Cryptography and Security are two of the best examples of the interaction between theory and practice.”

Aviel Rubin

This course is an introduction to the basic theory and practice of cryptographic techniques used in computer security.

This is a 4-credit course, consisting of two weekly 2-hour meetings. It is intended for graduate and advanced year undergraduate students.

Prerequisites: Elementary Number Theory, Elementary Course in Abstract Algebra, Linear Algebra, Elementary Course in Statistics and Probability theory.

Introduction (3 sessions)

- History, Overview of cryptography.
- Classical encryptions and their cryptanalysis:

Permutation Ciphers

- The Spartan Scytale
- The Transposition Cipher

Monoalphabetic Substitution Ciphers

- The Shift Cipher
- The Affine Cipher
- Introduction to modular arithmetic
- Solving linear congruences
- Euclidean Algorithm

Polyalphabetic Substitution Ciphers

- The Vigenère Cipher
- The Hill Cipher
- The One-Time Pad
- Pseudorandom Sequences

Basic Secret Key Encryption (security against eavesdropping)

(7 sessions)

- Information theoretic security: Entropy, Perfect Secrecy, unicity distance, One time pad.
- Boolean Functions.
- Cryptanalysis of classical ciphers; Stream ciphers; RC4, LFSRs.
- Product cryptosystems: block ciphers; Feistel Type Cryptosystems, Substitution-permutation networks (SPNs).
- Mathematical preliminaries: probability distributions, random variables.
- Feistel networks: Data Encryption Standard (DES), Using block ciphers (basic modes of operation).
- Strengthening DES: Triple-DES.
- Cryptanalysis of block ciphers: Time-Space Trade-off, Differential & Linear cryptanalysis, Meet-in-the-Middle, Algebraic cryptanalysis.
- The Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) cipher.
- Semantic security, Pseudorandom Permutations, Statistical Tests for Pseudorandom Number Generators for Cryptographic Applications.

Message Integrity (Hashing) (2 sessions)

- Cryptographic hash functions: Properties of hashing, Birthday paradox, Security requirements, Collisions, Birthday attack, Security uses: Passwords, Message and Data Integrity, Message Digest; MD5, SHA, Keyed hashing; Message authentication codes (MACs).

Public Key Encryption (12 sessions)

- Mathematical preliminaries: primes, Factorization, GCDs and the Extended Euclidean Algorithm, modular exponentiation and inverses.
- Introduction to public-key cryptography.
- Mathematical preliminaries: Chinese Remainder Theorem, primality testing, modular square roots; Rabin's cryptosystem, Factoring algorithms: Pollard's rho method, p-1 method, Number Field Sieve, Quadratic Sieve method.

The RSA Algorithm

- Mathematical preliminaries: Fermat's little theorem, Euler's Phi-function, Euler's theorem, arithmetic modulo composites.

- The Asymmetric Key Concept and RSA Implementation, Trapdoor one-way function.
- RSA and Rabin encryption, Performance of RSA, How to use RSA? Hybrid encryption.
- Vulnerabilities: Unpadded RSA is insecure. Small private key. Random message padding.
- Miller-Rabin primality testing; Protecting against attacks on RSA: Strong primes.

Diffie-Hellman Key Agreement

- Mathematical preliminaries: Abelian groups and finite fields, some more modular arithmetic: Arithmetic modulo primes, big number arithmetic; repeated squaring.
- The Discrete Logarithm Problem.
- The Key Agreement Scheme.

ElGamal encryption

Digital Signatures (2 sessions)

- Definition of secure signature schemes. Lamport and Merkle schemes.
- How to sign using RSA, vulnerabilities.
- Brief overview of the Digital Signature Standard (DSS).
- Digital signature schemes: ElGamal, DSA; undeniable signatures.

Authentication and Key Exchange (2 sessions)

- One time password, Key Exchange, Challenge-Response authentication.
- Zero-knowledge proofs, Bit commitment, Pseudorandom Number Generation.

Course Books

1. Douglas R. Stinson; *Cryptography: Theory and Practice*, 2nd ed., CRC Press, 2002.
2. D. R. Stinson; *Cryptography: Theory and Practice*, 1st ed., CRC Press, 1995.
3. Johannes A. Buchmann, *Introduction to Cryptography*, Springer-Verlag, 2001.
4. Hans Delfs, Helmut Knebl, *Introduction to Cryptography, Principles and Applications*, Springer Verlag, 2002.

5. Josef Pieprzyk, Thomas Hardjono, Jennifer Seberry, *Fundamentals of Computer Security*, Springer Verlag, 2003.
6. Albrecht Beutelspacher; *Cryptology*, The Mathematical Association of America, 1994.

Other Books (Publications)

1. Oded Goldreich, *The Foundations of Cryptography*, A two-volume book
Vol. 1 (Basic Tools): published June 2001, Vol. 2 (Basic Applications): published
May 2004, both Volumes by Cambridge University Press.
2. Neal Koblitz; *A Course in Number Theory and Cryptography*, 2nd. ed.,
Springer-Verlag, 1994.
3. A. J. Menezes, P. C. van Oorschot and S. A. Vanstone; *Handbook of
Applied Cryptography*, CRC Press, 1997. Available online.
4. Bruce Schneier; *Applied Cryptography: Protocols, Algorithms, and Source
Code in C*, 2nd. ed., John Wiley & Sons, 1996.
5. Rukhin A. et al.; *A Statistical Test Suite for Random and Pseudo Random Number
Generators for Cryptographic Applications*, NIST Special Publication 800-22,
2001, <http://www.csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-22/sp-800-22-051501.pdf>

References for the Syllabus:

<http://crypto.stanford.edu/~dabo/cs255/syllabus.html>

<http://www.cse.sc.edu/research/isl/csce557Syllabus.shtml>

<http://www.cs.bgu.ac.il/~beimel/Courses/crypto/crypto.html>

<http://www.math.temple.edu/~renault/cryptology/syllabus.html>