

Intro to Cryptography

Instructor:	Fang Song
Course Meeting Schedule:	M/W 11:30 – 13:20 @ KMC 590
Email:	fsong@pdx.edu Start email subject line with “w24-4585”
Course webpage:	https://fangsong.info/teaching/w24_458_icrypto/
Office hours:	TBD

Course Description

This course will explore the key concepts in modern cryptography, including *private-key* cryptography such as perfect secrecy, block ciphers, cryptographic hash functions and message authentication; as well as *public-key* cryptography such as public-key encryption and digital signatures. We will take a *conceptual* and *theoretical* approach: the focus is on the *ideas* rather than *implementations*, and on how to define and reason about security of cryptographic constructions in a mathematically sound manner.

Course Objectives

Upon the successful completion of this class, students will be able to:

1. understand the fundamental principles of modern cryptography: formal definitions, constructions, and proofs of security.
2. describe private-key primitives such as private-key encryption, pseudorandom generator, block ciphers and message authentication.
3. explain security definitions of private-key primitives, and prove security of representative constructions using reductions.
4. describe public-key primitives such as key exchange, public-key encryption, and digital signatures.
5. explain security definitions of public-key primitives, and analyze security of basic constructions such as the RSA and ElGamal schemes.
6. evaluate the effectiveness and identify potential flaws in newly designed cryptosystems.
7. integrate the above and develop a cryptographic way of thinking.

Course Prerequisites

CS 350 or equivalent. You must be comfortable with reading and writing mathematical proofs.

Readings

The following book is required. Other recommended readings can be found on the course webpage.

- [KL] Introduction to Modern Cryptography (3rd edition) by Jonathan Katz and Yehuda Lindell. Chapman and Hall/CRC, Dec. 2020. PSU Library [Link](#).

Grading Policies

- Homework: 50%. Biweekly.
- Quizzes: 15%. Biweekly.
- Project: 30%.

- Participation: 5%.

Homework Policy

- You have a quota of 5 days in total for late submissions of homework or quizzes without penalty. You can use them at your will. Once the quota runs out, no late submissions will be accepted.
- Collaboration on homework problems is highly encouraged, but you must write up solutions entirely on your own and clearly list who you discussed with for each problem. You may NOT use solutions found online.
- All assignments must be submitted in PDF format. It is recommended to type-set your solutions using LaTeX, and you will get extra credit doing so.
- For each assignment, a random subset of problems will be graded.
- Quizzes must be completed on your own.

Course Topics and Tentative Schedule

Check course webpage for details and updates

Week	Topic	Suggested Reading
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1	Intro, history, perfect secrecy.	KL 1
2 – 4	Private-key cryptography: pseudorandom generators, block ciphers, message authentication, hash functions.	KL 2 – 8
5 – 8	Public-key cryptography: Diffie-Hellman key exchange, RSA, ElGamal public-key encryption, digital signatures.	KL 9 – 14
9 – 10	Selected topics	Online articles

PSU Policies & Resources

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is a vital part of the educational experience at PSU. Please see the [PSU Student Code of Conduct](#) for the university's policy on academic dishonesty. A confirmed violation of that Code in this course may result in failure of the course.

Recording Technology Notice

We will use technology for virtual meetings and recordings in part of this course. Our use of such technology is governed by FERPA, the [Acceptable Use Policy](#) and PSU's [Student Code of Conduct](#). A record of all meetings and recordings is kept and stored by PSU, in accordance with the Acceptable Use Policy and FERPA. I will not share recordings of your class activities outside of course participants, which include your fellow students, TAs/GAs/Mentors, and any guest faculty or community-based learning partners that we may engage with. **You may not share recordings outside this course. Doing so may result in disciplinary action.**

Student Services

Disability Access Statement

If you have, or think you may have, a disability that may affect your work in this class and feel you need accommodations, contact the Disability Resource Center to schedule an appointment and initiate a conversation about reasonable accommodations. The DRC is located in 116 Smith Memorial Student Union, 503-725-4150, drc@pdx.edu, <https://www.pdx.edu/disability-resource-center/>

Safe Campus Statement

Portland State University desires to create a safe campus for our students. As part of that mission, PSU requires all students to take the learning module entitled Creating a Safe Campus: Preventing Gender Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct and Sexual Assault. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources on PSU's Enrollment Management & Student Affairs: Sexual Prevention & Response website at <http://www.pdx.edu/sexual-assault>

Title IX Reporting

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment for my students and for the campus as a whole. Please be aware that as a faculty member, I have the responsibility to report any instances of sexual harassment, sexual violence and/or other forms of prohibited discrimination. If you would rather share information about sexual harassment, sexual violence or discrimination to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can find a list of those individuals on PSU's Enrollment Management & Student Affairs: Sexual Prevention & Response website at <http://www.pdx.edu/sexual-assault>.

Discrimination and Bias Incidents

[The Office of Equity and Compliance](#) (OEC) addresses complaints of discrimination, discriminatory Harassment, and sexual harassment against employees (faculty and staff). If you or someone you know believes they have been discriminated against, you may file a complaint. Someone from the OEC will contact you to discuss how to best address your complaint.

[The Bias Review Team](#) (BRT) gathers information on bias incidents that happen on and around campus, and gives resources and support to individuals who experience them. You can report a bias incident you experienced or learned about. A member of the BRT will contact you if you indicate you would like to be contacted.

Religious Accommodations

If you would like to obtain religious accommodations, such as flexibility in attending evening courses or extension on assignments, please contact your instructors. If you need additional assistance, please contact the Office of the Dean of Student Life (DOSL) by emailing askdos@pdx.edu.

Cultural Resource Centers

Cultural Resource Centers (CRCs) create a student-centered inclusive environment that enriches the university experience. They honor diversity, explore social justice issues, celebrate cultural traditions, and foster student identities, success, and leadership. They provide opportunities for student leadership, employment, and volunteering; student resources such as computer labs, event, lounge, and study spaces; and extensive programming. All are welcome!

- Multicultural Student Center
- La Casa Latina Student Center
- Native American Student and Community Center
- Pan African Commons

- Pacific Islander, Asian, and Asian American Student Center
- Middle East, North Africa, South Asia Initiative

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COVID-19 Response

The University has established rules and policies to make the return to the classroom as safe as possible. To learn about Portland State's activities to reduce the spread of COVID-19, visit [PSU's COVID-19 Response page](#).