

1035-G1-825 **Mike May*** (maymk@slu.edu), Dept of Mathematics and Computer Science, Ritter Hall 104, 220 N Grand Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63103-2007. *Using Maple worksheets to enable explorations of cryptography with minimal background.*

At Saint Louis University, we have been teaching a course in cryptography that has only Calculus II as a prerequisite. Using a full set of Maple worksheets we can have students explore cryptographic techniques and algorithms without a prerequisite of either programming or of advanced algebra. The course typically has a mixed audience and is used to advertise other upper division math and computer science courses. The final project is to write a paper discussing the strengths and weaknesses of a commercial grade system not discussed in class, and to encode an implementation. (Received September 16, 2007)