Intro to Codes and Ciphers

Governments and organizations have used codes and ciphers throughout history to convey and protect sensitive information, and for just as long, adversaries and allies both have tried to break these codes and ciphers to discover the underlying information. The ability to both protect and discover the plans and strategy of another country or group has affected outcomes in times of both war and peace.

This class will focus on introducing the different types of codes and ciphers to participants. Each class will consist of a lecture, followed by discussion and hands-on practice.

Proposed syllabus is as follows:

Week 1: Introduction: What are Codes and Ciphers, and how do they differ

Week 2: Codes and their usage throughout history

Week 3: Simple ciphers

Week 4: Complex ciphers

Week 5: Machine ciphers