

1023-I1-140

Katharine F Gurski* (kgurski@gwu.edu), George Washington University, Department of Mathematics, 1922 F St, NW, Washington, DC 20052. *Group Consulting Projects Using Matrices and Linear Programming.*

We describe two short group projects for finite mathematics students that incorporate matrices and linear programming into fictional consulting requests presented as a letter to the students. The students are required to use mathematics to decrypt secret messages in one project involving matrix multiplication and inversion. The second project involves a linear programming treasure map. After a discussion and solution session, the students are asked to present the group solution in a business letter. We present a grading checklist and discuss the classroom experience. (Received August 10, 2006)