

1067-C5-1816 **Peter J. Littig*** (plittig@uwb.edu), University of Washington, Bothell, Science and Technology Program, 18115 NE Campus Way, Bothell, WA 98011. *How to Construct a Spy Dossier.*

What could be more appealing than mathematics, spies, and secret codes? In this talk I will give a brief overview of the interdisciplinary cryptography course I teach and then describe the course's central project: the spy dossier. The project is a quarter-long, team-based assignment in which students play the role of agents working for a secret intelligence agency. The spy story unfolds through a series of encrypted messages that students must crack using the techniques learned in the course (e.g., frequency analysis, index of coincidence, Babbage's Vigenere attack, etc.) I will conclude with a few remarks about Dossier 2.0, the latest stage of the project's evolution. (Received September 21, 2010)