Sarah Spence Adams* (sarah.adams@olin.edu), Olin College of Engineering, Olin Way, Needham, MA 02026, and Gordon Prichett (prichett@babson.edu), Babson College, Babson Park, MA 02457. A Motivational Course in Cryptology and Coding Theory.

With the goal of attracting more students to mathematics and other technical classes, we have designed an introductory course in cryptology and coding theory that is accessible to first- and second-year students. The class does not have any formal prerequisites: We teach the required linear algebra, abstract algebra, and number theory in a “just in time” fashion. The class includes discussions on social and historical issues, group-based assignments, and end-of-semester projects that allow students to pursue personal interests. The class has been offered twice to mixed classes of business majors from Babson College, engineering majors from Olin College, and liberal arts majors from Wellesley College. We will provide detailed information for faculty interested in our course materials, which were developed under support from NSF CCLI A&I DUE-0410517. (Received August 14, 2006)