

College of Arts and Letters Visiting Scholar Colloquium

Messages and Mathematics

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Abstract: Beautiful patterns among numbers, discovered hundreds of years ago, turn out to be crucial for secure, decentralized communication. We'll discuss the mathematics and methods which allow you and a friend to flip a coin over the phone or to speak privately in a world full of eavesdroppers, and speculate about the next generation of secure cryptosystems. This talk is geared towards a general audience and assumes no prior knowledge of mathematics.

Monday, November 7 at 6:00 in Harrison 2105