

# A SHORT HISTORY OF CRYPTOGRAPHY

Presented by: Richard Norwood

Wednesdays, Sept. 1, 8, 15, and 22 • 10 am-12 noon

## **ONLINE via ZOOM**

Sending secret messages, or cryptography, began with the invention of writing, and has been with us ever since. Whenever the technology of communication has changed and advanced, cryptography has changed in lockstep. From the time when people could encode and decode messages with a pencil and paper, we have advanced to a stage where a powerful computer is a necessity.



In the beginning, code-breaking depended on linguists and language translators. Now the field is dominated by mathematicians and computer experts. Early cryptography involved both codes and ciphers. As the crypto-technology changed from hand calculations to machines, and later computers, ciphers became dominant.

In this course we will survey those changes and examine instances where code-breaking has changed history.

Preferred registration deadline\*: August 30, 2021 ------

#### **Enrollment form: Short History of Cryptography**

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VISTAS members \$25; non-members \$38

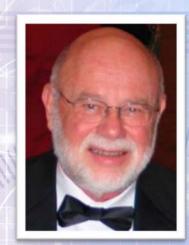
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Number of persons	\$	Check #
Name(s):		
Phone:	Email:	

<sup>\*</sup>Early enrollment helps us with our planning; also, those who register by the preferred deadline will be given priority in case of over-enrollment.

Richard Norwood's 30-year career at IBM included work in advanced technology and product development. He also taught mechanical engineering at the National Technical University in Quito, Ecuador, during a two-year leave of absence. After retiring from IBM in 1991, he taught for ten years at the University of Colorado in the Mechanical Engineering Department. He holds a BS, MS, and ScD degrees from MIT.

Dick and his wife, Anne, live in Boulder, Colorado; for many years they also stayed in Santa Barbara during the winter. VISTAS courses he has presented in recent years include "The Scientific Revolution" (2010); "Why Women Do the Housework: The Industrial Revolution" (2018); and "Damming the Colorado" (2016).



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### VISTAS Calendar

SUBJECT TO CHANGE; for up-to-date information, visit our website (VistasLifelongLearning.org) frequently!

Course / Event	Date(s)	Time	Venue
Annual Fall Picnic	Sunday, September 19	12:30 pm	Tucker's Grove
Nonfiction Book Club 1 / Dawn McGrew	2nd Thursday monthly	1:30 pm	Meets in a private home
Nonfiction Book Club 2 / Dawn McGrew	4th Monday monthly	1:30 pm	Via Zoom
Short History of Cryptography / Dick Norwood	Wed. Sep. 1, 8, 15, 22	10:00 am	Via Zoom
Humanity's Relationship with Food / Larry Canepa	Fri. Sep. 3, 10, 17	1:00 pm	Via Zoom
Important Economic Issues / Peter Naylor	Wed. Sep. 29, Oct. 6, Oct. 13	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Great American Waterways / Jim Hemmer	Mon. Oct. 11, 18, 25	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
James Baldwin: In His Own Words / Denny Klos	Wed. Nov. 3, 10	9:30 am	Goleta Library
Origins of Proto-Indo-European Lang. / J. Hemmer	Mon. Nov. 8, 15	9:30 am	Goleta Library
The Story Behind Bellosguardo / John Ummel	Tues. Nov. 16	9:30 am	Venue TBD
Frayed Am. Social Safety Net / Ted Anagnoson	Mon. Nov. 22, 29, Dec. 6, 13	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
"Sounds Good! Does It Work?" / Phil Sokolove	Tues. Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14	9:30 am	Venue TBD
Am. Criminal Law & Procedure / Pat McKinley	Wed. Dec. 1, 8, 15	9:30 am	Goleta Library