

Department of Justice, Law and Criminology
Master's Comprehensive Examination
Justice and Public Policy
Fall, 2016

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer any **two** of the following four questions. Include in your answers references to the relevant literature, case law, and/or other sources. Label each answer by number. Please begin each answer on a new page. Remember to write your 4-digit ID number on all pages. You have three hours in which to complete this examination.

1. As warden of a prison, you are called upon to give a 'welcome' or orientation speech to convicts entering your institution. You want to give them some insight into what they will face as they enter the prison society. What does the research tell us about the transition from the free world to the prison world, and how would you convey this body of work to the arriving prisoners? Be sure to cite the relevant literature. **(Johnson and Ransom)**
2. The sentence of "life without the possibility of parole" (LWOP) is sometimes referred to as "America's other death penalty." Assess the validity of this claim in light of the literature on punishment. Should LWOP replace the death penalty? Should these punishments co-exist as examples of extreme sanctions? Should both be replaced by life with the possibility of parole, in which case we would have no sentence of any kind? Explain your answer. **(Johnson and Ransom)**
3. Identify what you consider to be the three most important improvements in policing during the past forty years and explain why and how they occurred. Be sure to explain why you consider these the most important. In your response, be sure to describe and critically analyze the criminological research that was involved in these improvements. Be sure to cite the relevant literature **(Bartholomew and Bennett)**
4. Deterrence and Labeling perspectives can be seen as alternatives in the limited sense that deterrence models predict that crime declines with the imposition of punishment and labeling models predict that punishment may amplify crime and deviance. Trace the intellectual history of deterrence and labeling perspectives in criminology. Based on the research literature, which model is best supported? Be sure to cite the relevant literature. **(Barron and Bartholomew)**

Department of Justice, Law and Criminology
Master's Comprehensive Examination
Terrorism and Security Policy
Fall, 2016

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer any **two** of the following four questions. Include in your answers references to the relevant literature, case law, and/or other sources. Label each answer by number. Please begin each answer on a new page. Remember to write your 4-digit ID number on all pages. You have three hours in which to complete this examination.

1. You are an advisor to the incoming administration, tasked with developing a strategy to counter the so-called Islamic State. Please provide your 3-5 top recommendations for the new administration's first term (i.e. efforts that can be undertaken within the next four years), ensuring that you clearly situate your recommendations within the literature.
2. What is the most important thing that policy makers need to understand that they could learn from academics about Terrorism and Homeland Security? What is the most important aspect of terrorism that academics might overlook but policy makers understand? Make sure to cite appropriate policy and academic pieces to support your arguments.
3. Does "lone-wolf" terrorism represent a greater or lesser threat than more organized forms of terrorism to US security? If so, why? As part of your answer first delineate the differences between lone-wolf and more organized forms of terrorism. Cite the relevant readings to support your response.
4. While most of the attention to global terrorism has focused on the jihadist variety, there has been a rise in right-wing extremism and terrorism in the West. What are the sources of this development? Do you see this as a greater or lesser threat to the West than extremism in the name of Islam? Explain, citing the relevant literature in responding.