

Department of Justice, Law and Criminology
Master's Comprehensive Examination
Justice and Public Policy
Spring, 2017

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. In 1974, Robert Martinson's report on the state of corrections-based rehabilitative programs concluded that "With few and isolated exceptions, the rehabilitative efforts that have been reported so far have had no appreciable effect on recidivism." In the subsequent months and years, this conclusion was often reduced to the pithy mantra "nothing works". Nearly a half-century later, practitioners, researchers and legislators continue the debate on what works with respect to rehabilitation programs. In this essay, you are to answer the following question: How do Martinson's conclusions and the idea that "nothing works" apply to the realities of corrections today? Be sure to cite the relevant literature.
2. Consider the literature on offending and the criminal legal responses to offenders. Can an offender change or are they destined to re-offend? To what extent does the literature support a punitive or a therapeutic response to offending? You may focus your answer on a specific type of offender (e.g., sex offenders) or a general type of offender (e.g., violent or non-violent offenders.) Be sure to cite the relevant literature.
3. The President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing recently issued its final report to President Barack Obama. Among the recommendations were several that focused on the need for American police to embrace the concepts of procedural justice and legitimacy. Please define these two terms and outline the research evidence on their effects. In your response, make sure to summarize the implications of procedural justice and legitimacy for why people obey the law and why people choose to defy the law. Be sure to cite the relevant literature.
4. According to one observer of the contemporary prison scene, "mature coping... is at the core of what we mean by correction or rehabilitation." Define the term mature coping, and argue for or against the proposition that mature coping is at the heart of the correctional enterprise. Be sure to cite the relevant literature. (Note that "the correctional enterprise" often hinges on successful re-entry into the free world after release from confinement.)

Department of Justice, Law and Criminology
Master's Comprehensive Examination
Law and Society
Spring, 2017

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. Both Durkheim and Marx regarded the division of labor as central to modern capitalist economies. However, whereas Durkheim viewed the division of labor positively as offering a basis for solidarity, Marx sharply criticized it as an instrument of oppression and alienation. Compare and contrast their different views. Explain how they drew such divergent conclusions. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of their arguments supporting these conclusions. Be sure to cite the relevant literature.
2. In America, we typically understand the rule of law to be a government of law and not men. How do we reconcile the rule of law in America with the discretion that judges have in deciding case? Or, cannot it not be reconciled? Be sure to cite the relevant literature.
3. Far out in international waters, a sunken pirate ship is discovered at the bottom of the sea. It contains gold in equivalence of roughly thirty million dollars. Take on the respective philosophical perspectives of Rawls and then Nozick and explain how each would determine the just course of action with respect to how to spend the money. Who do you agree with, and why? Be sure to cite the relevant literature.
4. Is it possible to reconcile the idea of fundamental human rights with Hart's legal positivist conception of rights as merely derivative of the institution that grants them? Be sure to cite the relevant literature.

Department of Justice, Law and Criminology
Master's Comprehensive Examination
Terrorism and Security Policy
Spring, 2017

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. What does the near future look like for ISIS? What policies can the US apply to change or speed up this future? Be sure to cite the relevant literature.
2. There has been a rise of right-wing populist movements that include strong anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim platforms in Western Europe and the United States. How might the rise of these right-wing movements influence counter-terror policy in the West? How might Salafi-Jihadist, or Islamist terror groups such as ISIS respond? Finally, what effect do you think it will have on future terrorism and counter-terrorism in the region.
3. On January 2, 2016 the headquarters of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon were illegally taken over for several weeks by a heavily armed group. Different terms have been used to describe the group: right-wing extremists, a private militia group, insurrectionists, terrorists, criminals, and revolutionaries. Which of these terms do you think are most and least applicable? Why? Does it matter what we call them? Do you think that armed, right-wing extremist groups and individuals pose a greater, lesser, or about the same level of threat to national security than/as jihadi terrorists? Explain your answer. What do you think should be done to reduce the threats posed by these groups generally? Do you think the authorities responded effectively in this case? Please cite the relevant literature in answering these questions.
4. You have been brought in as a counterterrorism advisor to the new Administration and tasked with identifying lessons learned since 9/11. What would be the major counter-terrorism pitfalls that you would advise the new Administration to avoid? Why have the policies/actions you have identified been particularly harmful to US counterterrorism efforts? Be sure to cite the relevant literature in your answer.