

Fall 2010 CJ Graduate Theory (8106)

Second In-Class Exam (12/15/2010)

INSTRUCTIONS

- This is a no-notes, closed book, no-web exam. The only program up and running on your computer is your word processing program.
- Stash all your books and papers either in your office, or, if you don't have one, in my office (I will keep it locked when roaming).
- You may use the facilities or get water as needed, but please (unless otherwise instructed) stay out of your office and stay on the floor until you turn in your exam.
- **PUT ONLY TUID NAME ON THE FIRST PAGE OF THE EXAM**, then start answering questions on the second page. Do NOT put your name anywhere else. **I have a list of these numbers if you need them.**
- You can answer the questions in any order you wish just be sure to start each new question on a new page.
- Be sure you have PAGE NUMBERS in your file.
- **You should have no memory sticks (usb flash drives) in your computer.**
- You must turn in your exam no later than **6:30 pm**.
- I encourage you to carefully edit; to proofread your answers; to budget your time carefully (**different questions count different amounts**); and to carefully read each question so that you answer the question given and not some other question.
- Save your work **frequently to disk** on the computer you are using.
- **The file name you use should start with your tuid number.**
- **I will give you specific instructions on how to get your file to me, depending on where you are.**

ANSWER ONE FROM PART A AND TWO FROM PART B

PART A – 50 %

1. A theory about why people commit crime either implies or explicitly states a view about human nature. Illustrate this point using three different theories considered in the last half of this course. HINT: try and select three theories that in your view have very different views about human nature.
2. Argue for or against the following: **most** of the theories reviewed in the last half of this course **fail to** provide clear suggestions about ways to prevent crime. (part a: ¼) State your pro or con position clearly. (part b: ¼) Be sure to define your terms: crime, prevent, fail, clear suggestions. (part c: ½) State your reasons for your position clearly being sure to illustrate with at least three and no more than four different theories covered in the last half of this course. *You really can agree or disagree with the opening statement.*

PART B – 25 % EACH

3. Argue for or against, given what you know about life course criminology: criminal careers exist.
4. (part a: ¾) What does the general theory of crime say about the relationship between age and crime? (part b: ¼) State whether you agree or disagree with this view and your reasons.
5. (part a: ¾) In what ways are group and organizational dynamics relevant to antisocial behavior? Illustrate using material from Zimbardo. (part b: ¼) Describe the strengths and limitations of this approach.
6. In one of a recent set of articles about public criminology (*Criminology and Public Policy*, November, 2010), Ian Loader and Richard Sparks repeated their claim that “the field of criminology has in recent years been a ‘successful failure.’” They went on to explain: “the worry expressed by this term is that the flourishing of criminology when measured using the standard yardsticks of jobs, degree programs, conferences, journals, publications, prizes and so on has coincided with a waning of influence over crime and penal policy that has come in recent decades to be driven more by popular emotion and political calculation than by reason and evidence.” (part a: ¾) According to Garland, why has this happened? (part b: ¼) What is your evaluation of Loader and Sparks’ view and Garland’s underlying explanation for how this has happened? *You may agree or disagree, just be sure to tell me why.*