Instructions

The exam consists of four questions: two theory questions and two methods questions. You must respond to one theory question and one methods question. Make sure you carefully read and respond to all parts of each question.

The August 2018 exam will be distributed on Friday August 10, 2018 between 9:00am and 12:00pm by the Department’s administrative specialist, Shamauri Jenkins. Both a paper and electronic copy of your completed examination must be submitted to her (jenki529@mailbox.sc.edu) on Friday August 17, 2018 between 9:00am and 12:00pm. Late examinations will not be accepted and will result in a failing score. Please note that once you receive the comprehensive examination questions, you are required to submit an examination by the deadline; otherwise your exam will receive a failing score. If you experience extenuating circumstances that interfere with your ability to complete your comprehensive exam, you should notify the graduate program director immediately. Please make sure your exam complies with the following submission requirements:

☐ You have written a response to one of the theory questions (10-15 pages not including the cover page and reference list).

☐ You have written a response to one of the methods questions (10-15 pages not including the cover page and reference list).

☐ You do not identify yourself anywhere within the document other than on the two cover pages.

☐ You have a separate cover page for each answer with your name, a clear indication of the question you have chosen to answer, and the identification code you have been assigned for that question.

☐ You have a separate identification code for each answer that is typed on both the cover page and header or the top right-hand corner of each page of your answer.

☐ You have separate reference sections for each answer that contains a list of references and source material that you have cited in your answers (APA style format).

☐ You follow the APA format, with 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spacing, and 1-inch margins throughout your answers.
☐ You have checked your document to ensure that you have not plagiarized. Any finding of plagiarism will result in a failing score on the exam. If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism, please see resources including:
http://professionalism.law.sc.edu/docs/plagiarism.pdf
https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/3/33/
http://guides.library.sc.edu/citation
http://plagiarism.org/

☐ You provide a signed honor pledge indicating that you neither gave nor received assistance with the comprehensive examination.

A committee of the entire regular graduate faculty (excepting faculty members on leave or on sabbatical) will grade all examination questions. To pass the exam, at least 2/3 of the grading faculty members must give each of your responses a passing score (pass or high pass). To earn a high pass, at least 90% of the grading faculty must assign a grade of “high pass” to each of your responses. If you fail the examination, you will be permitted to retake it one additional time.
Theory Examination Questions (Select One)

1. What makes for a “good” theory? Use a theory in criminology of your choosing to demonstrate your point.

2. Explain the Chicago school’s contribution to criminological theory.

Methods Examination Questions (Select One)

1. Imagine you are the founding editor of a new criminology journal. Outline and justify your criteria for methodological rigor expected from submissions for acceptance for inclusion in your journal, highlighting a minimum of 5 key components. Explain how you would evaluate these criteria. Discuss why such standards are vital for the advancement of scholarship in the field.

2. A major policing practice – stop, question and frisk-- has been challenged by communities of color. How would you evaluate the practice, and would your methodology be sufficiently robust to provide an answer to American police and the public that the practice is reasonable or discriminatory?