School of Applied Human Sciences
(Criminology)

JUNE 2016 MAIN EXAMINATION
BIOPSYCHOSOCIAL PERSPECTIVES CRIM306

Date: June 2016
Duration: 3 Hours

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INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

This examination paper consists of Two (2) sections (A and B).
Answer all MC questions in Section A (50 marks)
AND
Answer any Two (2) of three essays in Section B (50 marks)
Total (100 marks)

TYPE OF TEST
This is a closed-book examination

NUMBER OF PAGES
Two (2)
APPENDIX
None
Section A: MCQ (Compulsory) (25x2 marks = 50 marks)

1. Criminal behaviour may be defined as:
   a) “Behaviour in violation of the criminal code that is intentional and without justification or excuse”;
   b) “Behaviour in violation of the criminal code that is unintentional and without justification or excuse”;
   c) “Behaviour in violation of the criminal code that is unintentional and with justification.

2. Victimisation surveys generally ask victims:
   a) Only about the frequency and characteristics of criminal victimization;
   b) Exclusively about the characteristics and consequences of criminal victimization;
   c) Seek information from victims about the frequency, characteristics and consequences of criminal victimization.

3. Choose the correct answer:
   a) Biological factors alone lead to mental illness;
   b) Biological and social factors both lead to mental illness;
   c) Social factors alone lead to mental illness.

4. The DSM-III and DSM-IV are measurement tests that were:
   a) Designed to measure mental illness or disorder
   b) Used to physical defects in criminals;
   c) Designed to childhood abusive practices

5. Lombroso’s view was that:
   a) Criminals had definite sociological failings which prevented them from developing to full human function;
   b) Criminals had definite biological failings which prevented them from developing to full human function;
   c) Criminals had definite biological and sociological failings which prevented them from developing to full human function.

6. Lombroso argued that:
   a) Criminals had large jaws, high cheek bones large ears only;
   b) All criminals had large ears, long arms, thick skulls as well as extra nipples or toes;
   c) Criminals had physical features such as large jaws, high cheek bones large ears, long arms, thick skulls as well as extra nipples or toes.

7. Studies have shown that criminal genes:
   a) Cause criminal behaviour;
   b) Have the potential to cause criminal behaviour;
   c) None of the above.
8. Adoption studies are a method used to:
   a) To endorse a relationship between genetics and biological factors in criminal behaviour;
   b) To explore genetic and biological factors as a cause of criminal behaviour;
   c) None of the above.

9. In adoption studies the history of the biological parents have shown to:
   a) Have less effect on criminal behaviour than that of the adoptive parents;
   b) Have shown to have more effect on criminal behaviour than that of the adoptive parents;
   c) Have no effect on criminal behaviour compared to the biological parents.

10. A biological method used to help explore violent crimes in terms of chromosomes and an identifiable genetic abnormality was that of:
    a) The XY syndrome;
    b) The XXY syndrome;
    c) The YXX syndrome.

11. An extra Y chromosome results in:
    a) Aggressive behaviour in both sexes;
    b) An increased likelihood of aggressive behaviour in females;
    c) An increased likelihood of aggressive behaviour in males.

12. Choose the correct answer from the options below:
    a) Functions in the neuro-transmitters in the brain have been associated with criminal behaviour;
    b) Dysfunctions in the neuro-transmitters in the brain have been associated with criminal behaviour;
    c) Dysfunctions in the physiological make-up of the brain have been associated with criminal behaviour.

13. Low levels of serotonin have been strongly associated with:
    a) Anti-social behaviour such as personality disorder;
    b) Criminal behaviour and particular crimes involving impulsive behaviour;
    c) A and B.

14. Testosterone levels are known to affect the activity of neurotransmitters in the brain, which may:
    a) Lower serotonin levels creating a neurological state, which is associated with disinhibition;
    b) Increase serotonin levels creating a neurological state, which is associated with disinhibition;
    c) Lower serotonin levels creating a neurological state, which is associated with inhibition.

15. Name the theorist who held the view that all humans possess natural drives and urges that are repressed in the unconscious:
    a) Lombroso;
    b) Erikson;
    c) Freud.
16. Social learning theory argues that:
   a) A person’s behaviour is learned and maintained by consequences or rewards;
   b) A person’s behaviour can only be learnt by means of observing past experiences or through social interaction;
   c) Neither of the above.

17. Cognitive development is
   a) The way in which an individual organises their thoughts around law and morality;
   b) The way in which an individual speaks
   c) The way in which an individual acts

18. Agnew’s Social Strain Theory focuses on:
   a) Positive relationships with parents only;
   b) Negative relationships that contribute to criminal behaviour;
   c) Positive and negative relationships with parents and siblings.

19. One of Agnew’s major types of “deviance-producing strain” is:
   a) Ability to defy authority;
   b) Failure to achieve negatively valued goals;
   c) Failure to achieve positively valued goals.

20. “The intergenerational transmission of violence” occurs when:
   a) Individuals learn by observing from their social environment and the behaviours of others (parents, peers, family, community members) and may then model or perform such behaviours themselves;
   b) Individuals engage with others (parents, peers, family, community members) and may then become criminal;
   c) Only young people are affected.

21. Homicide can be defined as
   a) The killing of a human by another human
   b) An accidental killing
   c) A non-fatal act

22. Substance abusers in South Africa are
   a) Mostly males
   b) Mostly young females
   c) Mostly young males

23. Among young offender most violent crime is committed by:
   a) Young males.
   b) Young females.
   c) Young males and females equally

24. In patriarchal societies, male juveniles are usually:
   a) Exposed to more risk factors than that of their siblings;
   b) Exposed to more risk factors than that of their female counterparts;
   c) Neither of the above.
25. Research has indicated that there is a strong prevalence of alcohol abuse:
   a) Amongst all juvenile offenders;
   b) Amongst female juvenile offenders;
   c) Amongst male juvenile offenders

Section B: Essay (Choose two of the three essays below)

1. Critically discuss whether criminals are born with a predisposition to behaviours that invite negative social sanction, or learn such behaviour from interactions with their environment? Provide examples where appropriate. (25)

2. Discuss dynamic risk factors proposed by Shader in explaining juvenile offending. (25)

3. Discuss psychopathology and anti-social personality disorder, paying specific attention to:
   a. The 16 characteristics of psychopathology, as established by Hervey (16)
   b. The criteria for anti-social personality disorder as listed in the DSM-IV-TR (APA, 2000). (9)

TOTAL 100

GOOD LUCK