

Chapter 1: Introduction to Forensic Psychology

Test Bank

Multiple Choice

1. Which term is synonymous with forensic data recovery?

- A. computer evidence recovery
- B. ink data discovery
- C. forensic document questioning
- D. handwriting analysis

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-2: Identify career areas in the forensic sciences.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: The Forensic Sciences

Difficulty Level: Medium

2. Mark Smith, PhD, studies the feeding patterns of insects. His findings are often used to determine the cause of death in murder investigations. Dr. Smith would be considered a(n) _____.

- A. forensic psychologist
- B. forensic entomologist
- C. insect analyst
- D. cephalic pathologist

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-2: Identify career areas in the forensic sciences.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: The Forensic Sciences

Difficulty Level: Medium

3. What do forensic psychology, forensic linguistics, and forensic archaeology all have in common?

- A. They are based on scientific principles.
- B. They involve the study of human pathology.
- C. They are based on an unknown, deceased subject.
- D. They involve the study of crime.

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-2: Identify career areas in the forensic sciences.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: The Forensic Sciences

Difficulty Level: Hard

4. Dr. Roy is a forensic psychologist who is conducting a child custody evaluation in a divorce case. Dr. Roy is practicing the forensic psychology subspecialty of _____.

- A. legal psychology
- B. correctional psychology
- C. victimology
- D. linguistics

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-4: Identify and describe major subareas of forensic psychology.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Forensic Psychology Today

Difficulty Level: Medium

5. What is the common link between the broad and narrow definitions of forensic psychology?

- A. the inclusion of clinicians
- B. the legal system
- C. violent crime analysis
- D. empirical assessment practices

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-1: Define forensic psychology and trace its historical development.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Forensic Psychology: An Overview

Difficulty Level: Hard

6. The text adopts a(n) _____ definition of forensic psychology.

- A. broad
- B. practical
- C. clinical
- D. academic

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-1: Define forensic psychology and trace its historical development.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Forensic Psychology: An Overview

Difficulty Level: Easy

7. Which specialty is one of the five major areas in forensic psychology?

- A. positive psychology
- B. social psychology
- C. legal psychology
- D. pathological psychology

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1-4: Identify and describe major subareas of forensic psychology.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Research and Practice Careers in Forensic Psychology

Difficulty Level: Easy

8. The immigrant population in the United States tends to be at the highest and lowest ends of the _____ continuum.

- A. adult violent crime
- B. educational
- C. violent bullying
- D. youth homicides

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-6: Illustrate roles and tasks performed by forensic psychologists.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: The Applied Specialties

Difficulty Level: Medium

9. Which of the following definitions would be considered a narrow definition of forensic psychology?

- A. Forensic psychology is the research and application of psychological knowledge to the legal system.
- B. Forensic psychology is the research endeavor that examines aspects of human behavior directly related to the legal process and the professional practice of psychology within a legal system that embraces both civil and criminal law.
- C. Forensic psychology is the application and practice of psychology as it pertains to the legal system.
- D. Forensic psychology refers to professional practice by any psychologist working within any subdiscipline of psychology when applying the scientific, technical, or specialized knowledge of psychology to the law to assist in addressing legal, contractual, and administrative matters.

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1-1: Define forensic psychology and trace its historical development.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Forensic Psychology: An Overview

Difficulty Level: Hard

10. Which statement supports the idea that courts often lean toward a medical model approach to mental disorder?

- A. Many judges prefer the involvement of psychiatrists for insanity determinations.
- B. Many attorneys prefer psychologists for child custody evaluations.
- C. Many judges advocate for psychologists to have prescription privileges.
- D. Many attorneys advocate for psychiatrists in correctional facilities.

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-1: Define forensic psychology and trace its historical development.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Forensic Psychology, Forensic Psychiatry, and Forensic Social Work

Difficulty Level: Hard

11. A forensic psychologist who specializes in victimology would most likely perform which of the following tasks?

- A. train police officers on how to deal with mentally ill citizens
- B. testify at a trial in which the defendant has pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity
- C. conduct research on the development of psychopathy
- D. assess, support, and counsel those who provide death notification services

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1-6: Illustrate roles and tasks performed by forensic psychologists.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Forensic Psychology Today

Difficulty Level: Hard

12. The largest worldwide association of psychologists is the _____.

- A. American Psychological Association
- B. International Association of Forensic Psychologists
- C. International Society of Clinical Psychologists
- D. American Board of Professional Psychologists

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-5: Summarize the educational, training, and certification requirements to become a forensic psychologist.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Careers in Psychology

Difficulty Level: Easy

13. Which statement most accurately summarizes a difference between forensic psychologists and forensic psychiatrists?

- A. Psychologists can legally prescribe medication in all 50 states, whereas psychiatrists can only prescribe medication in the military.
- B. Psychologists focus on research, whereas psychiatrists focus on application.
- C. Psychiatrists hold a medical degree, whereas most psychologists do not.
- D. Psychologists work primarily in institutional settings, whereas psychiatrists do not.

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1-3: Distinguish forensic psychology from other forensic sciences.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Forensic Psychology, Forensic Psychiatry, and Forensic Social Work

Difficulty Level: Hard

14. Where would a forensic psychologist find the principles and standards for ethical practices?

- A. The APA's Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct
- B. Black's Law Dictionary

- C. The Journal of Forensic Psychology
- D. Clinician's Handbook of Psychological Behavior

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-5: Summarize the educational, training, and certification requirements to become a forensic psychologist.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Ethical Issues

Difficulty Level: Medium

15. The majority of new psychology doctorates are employed in _____ settings.

- A. government
- B. business
- C. private practice
- D. human service

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1-5: Summarize the educational, training, and certification requirements to become a forensic psychologist.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Education and Training

Difficulty Level: Easy

16. There has been a global increase in forensic psychology graduate programs within the past few years. What conclusion can you make about the field of forensic psychology from this statement?

- A. Crime is on the rise.
- B. There is a need for trained mental health counselors in corrections.
- C. The field has been overly glamorized in the media.
- D. The field is growing.

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1-5: Summarize the educational, training, and certification requirements to become a forensic psychologist.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Educational and Training Requirements

Difficulty Level: Hard

17. Jan is a second-year college student who is interested in becoming a police psychologist. Which path would you suggest that she take in order to reach her goals?

- A. encourage her to transfer to a university accredited in police psychology
- B. encourage her to earn her undergraduate degree and then join the police academy
- C. encourage her to transfer to an undergraduate school with joint-degree training
- D. encourage her to earn a doctorate in psychology and gain ample exposure to police culture

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1-4: Identify and describe major subareas of forensic psychology.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Police and Public Safety Psychology

Difficulty Level: Hard

18. A forensic psychologist, who has earned a doctorate and is licensed, certified, and accepted by peers as being at the highest level of excellence has likely obtained _____ certification.

A. MPH

B. LPA

C. diplomate

D. joint-degree

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1-5: Summarize the educational, training, and certification requirements to become a forensic psychologist.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Educational and Training Requirements

Difficulty Level: Medium

19. Which of the following statements about prescription privileges for psychologists is correct?

A. Recent surveys indicate that almost all psychologists are in favor of prescription privileges.

B. Some states give psychologists prescription privileges.

C. No state allows psychologists to prescribe medication.

D. Military psychologists are the only psychologists who have prescription privileges.

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-3: Distinguish forensic psychology from other forensic sciences.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Forensic Psychology, Forensic Psychiatry, and Forensic Social Work

Difficulty Level: Medium

20. According to Heilbrun and Brooks (2010), which certifying body of board certification is the most rigorous?

A. American Board of Forensic Psychology

B. American Board of Professional Psychology

C. International Association of Correctional Psychologists

D. International Society of Forensic Psychologists

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-5: Summarize the educational, training, and certification requirements to become a forensic psychologist.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Educational and Training Requirements

Difficulty Level: Easy

21. Fitness for duty evaluations are to _____ psychology as child custody evaluations are to _____ psychology.

- A. clinical; school
- B. social; criminal
- C. organizational; victim
- D. police; legal

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1-6: Illustrate roles and tasks performed by forensic psychologists.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Research and Practice Careers in Forensic Psychology

Difficulty Level: Hard

22. Which forensic psychology subspecialty would be concerned with visitation rights for a same-sex couple who were not legally married?

- A. correctional
- B. family forensic
- C. police and public safety
- D. forensic school

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-6: Illustrate roles and tasks performed by forensic psychologists.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Family Forensic Psychology

Difficulty Level: Medium

23. Which statement concerning youth violence is most accurate?

- A. Despite media attention, juvenile violent crime continues to decrease nationwide.
- B. The steady increase in juvenile crime indicates Americans' apathy toward the educational needs of children and teenagers.
- C. One's risk of being injured in school is significantly higher than one's risk of being injured in the community at large.
- D. The juvenile murder rate has been increasing at a rapid rate since 1990.

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-6: Illustrate roles and tasks performed by forensic psychologists.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Forensic School Psychology

Difficulty Level: Medium

24. The study of persons who have experienced actual or threatened physical, psychological, social, and/or financial harm as the result of the actual or attempted commission of crime against them is called _____.

- A. victimology
- B. rehabilitation psychology
- C. heuristics
- D. correctional psychology

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-4: Identify and describe major subareas of forensic psychology.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Victimology and Victim Services

Difficulty Level: Easy

25. Evidence suggests that the effects of criminal victimization on adults are _____.

- A. temporary and varied
- B. pervasive and persistent
- C. intense yet fleeting
- D. apparent yet untreatable

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-4: Identify and describe major subareas of forensic psychology.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Victimology and Victim Services

Difficulty Level: Medium

27. What is the fastest growing branch of forensic psychology?

- A. legal
- B. family
- C. correctional
- D. juvenile

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1-4: Identify and describe major subareas of forensic psychology.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Correctional Psychology

Difficulty Level: Easy

28. In their study of APA-accredited doctoral programs, Magaletta et al. (2013) found that graduate schools failed to adequately prepare students for which forensic psychology subspecialty?

- A. legal
- B. family
- C. correctional
- D. juvenile

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1-4: Identify and describe major subareas of forensic psychology.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Correctional Psychology

Difficulty Level: Medium

29. A psychologist who consults with school staff to identify potentially troubled and dangerous youth is likely practicing the forensic psychology subspecialty of _____ psychology.

- A. legal
- B. forensic school
- C. victim's witness
- D. correctional

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-6: Illustrate roles and tasks performed by forensic psychologists.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Forensic School Psychology

Difficulty Level: Medium

30. The history of forensic psychology can be traced back to late 19th-century experiments involving which topic?

- A. serial murders
- B. prison violence
- C. child development
- D. eyewitness identification

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1-1: Define forensic psychology and trace its historical development.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Brief History of Forensic Psychology

Difficulty Level: Medium

31. The Food and Drug Administration's forensic lab was instrumental in investigating the 1982 product tampering case involving _____.

- A. the Unabomber
- B. cyanide-laced Tylenol capsules
- C. the Hillside Strangler
- D. a security breach at Target stores

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-1: Define forensic psychology and trace its historical development.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: The Forensic Sciences

Difficulty Level: Easy

32. Psychologists who use valid and reliable methods are engaging in _____.

- A. evidence-based practice
- B. questioned document analysis
- C. risk assessment
- D. professional accountability

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-1: Define forensic psychology and trace its historical development.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: The Forensic Sciences

Difficulty Level: Medium

33. Which ethical issue would a psychologist be least likely to address?

- A. answering the ultimate issue in a child custody evaluation
- B. determining the correct medication dosage for a psychotic prisoner
- C. conducting a risk assessment for a death penalty case
- D. participating in a military interrogation

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-1: Define forensic psychology and trace its historical development.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Ethical Issues

Difficulty Level: Medium

34. Which type of training can be offered at the undergraduate and graduate levels and provides students real-world exposure to the field?

- A. diplomate
- B. dissertation
- C. licensure
- D. internship

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1-3: Distinguish forensic psychology from other forensic sciences.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Education and Training

Difficulty Level: Easy

35. Assessing the mental needs of incoming prison inmates is a task performed by a _____ psychologist.

- A. police
- B. delinquent
- C. criminal
- D. correctional

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1-6: Illustrate roles and tasks performed by forensic psychologists.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Correctional Psychology

Difficulty Level: Medium

36. Research on crime and delinquency suggests which factor leads to serious violent offending?

- A. authoritative teaching
- B. rejection by peers
- C. excessive television viewing
- D. poor academic performance

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-6: Illustrate roles and tasks performed by forensic psychologists.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Psychology of Crime and Delinquency
Difficulty Level: Medium

37. Which statement about forensic psychology is correct?

- A. There is no consensus about how it should be defined.
- B. It is a clinical specialization in psychology.
- C. It is a research specialization in psychology.
- D. There are no guidelines for the profession.

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-1: Define forensic psychology and trace its historical development.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Forensic Psychology: An Overview

Difficulty Level: Medium

38. The American Psychological Association accepted forensic psychology as a specialization in the year _____.

- A. 1991
- B. 1995
- C. 2001
- D. 2005

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1-1: Define forensic psychology and trace its historical development.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Brief History of Forensic Psychology

Difficulty Level: Easy

39. Which specialization is considered an applied branch of psychology?

- A. cognitive
- B. developmental
- C. experimental
- D. forensic

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1-5: Summarize the educational, training, and certification requirements to become a forensic psychologist.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Education and Training

Difficulty Level: Medium

40. The term *LPA* refers to _____.

- A. a person with a master's degree in psychology who has received clinical training and is licensed
- B. psychologists with PhDs who have gained wide recognition in the field
- C. social workers who are licensed as therapists and work in a forensic setting

D. undergraduate students who work as assistants in an in-patient psychiatric hospital

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-5: Summarize the educational, training, and certification requirements to become a forensic psychologist.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Education and Training

Difficulty Level: Easy

41. Dr. Brown is using an empirically supported intervention called cognitive-behavioral therapy with a group of unmotivated criminal justice clients. Dr. Brown is using a(n) _____ approach.

A. correctional

B. victimless

C. motivational

D. evidence-based

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1-4: Identify and describe major subareas of forensic psychology.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Correctional Psychology

Difficulty Level: Hard

42. What is the difference between standards and guidelines?

A. Psychologists are expected to adhere to guidelines; standards are aspirational.

B. Psychologists are expected to adhere to standards; guidelines are aspirational.

C. Guidelines are legal; standards are psychological.

D. Standards are psychological; guidelines are legal.

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-1: Define forensic psychology and trace its historical development.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Brief History of Forensic Psychology

Difficulty Level: Hard

43. The authors state that psychology is a(n) _____ profession.

A. applied

B. often litigated

C. mundane

D. doctoral-level

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1-5: Summarize the educational, training, and certification requirements to become a forensic psychologist.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Education and Training

Difficulty Level: Easy

44. Compared to the PhD, the PsyD degree is _____.

- A. less research oriented
- B. declining in popularity among graduate students
- C. not offered by any major university
- D. popular in Canada and the United Kingdom, but not in the United States

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-5: Summarize the educational, training, and certification requirements to become a forensic psychologist.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Graduate Training, Doctoral Level

Difficulty Level: Medium

45. Graduates with master's degrees in psychology and without a doctoral degree _____.

- A. cannot legally practice psychology
- B. cannot call themselves psychologists in most states
- C. are not allowed to work in prison settings
- D. are not allowed to testify in federal courts

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1-5: Summarize the educational, training, and certification requirements to become a forensic psychologist.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Education and Training

Difficulty Level: Hard

46. A forensic psychologist who is licensed, certified, and accepted by peers as being at the highest level of excellence has likely obtained a _____ degree.

- A. LPA
- B. diplomate
- C. doctorate (PhD)
- D. MD

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1-5: Summarize the educational, training, and certification requirements to become a forensic psychologist.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Education and Training

Difficulty Level: Easy

47. Which of the following is NOT one of the three major career roles of a forensic psychologist?

- A. Criminal Profiler
- B. Consultant
- C. Expert witness
- D. Researcher

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1-2: Identify career areas in the forensic sciences.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Forensic Psychology Today

Difficulty Level: Easy

48. Which of the following is one of the duties of a forensic psychologist as an expert witness?

A. Advise law enforcement on the behavior and traits of an offender, such as the profile of a perpetrator, detecting deception, jury selection, and more.

B. Investigate psychological issues in the law, including jury decision-making, eyewitness testimony, false confessions, and more.

C. Assess offenders' mental health, IQ, personality traits, etc., to determine the mental state, competence, risk, and criminal responsibility of the offenders, and testify on these issues if necessary in court.

D. Profile criminals in order to advise law enforcement and the courts of potential suspects

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1-6: Illustrate roles and tasks performed by forensic psychologists.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Forensic Psychology Today

Difficulty Level: Medium

True/False

1. This text focuses on the various fields of forensic science.

Ans: F

Learning objective number: 1-2: Identify career areas in the forensic sciences.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: The Forensic Sciences

Difficulty Level: Medium

2. Forensic psychology was first recognized as a specialty in 2008.

Ans: F

Learning Objective : 1-1: Define forensic psychology and trace its historical development.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Brief History of Forensic Psychology

Difficulty Level: Easy

3. According to the text, one must obtain a forensic psychology degree in order to be a competent forensic psychologist.

Ans: F

Learning Objective : 1-5: Summarize the educational, training, and certification requirements to become a forensic psychologist.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Education and Training

Difficulty Level: Easy

4. Forensic psychology and forensic psychiatry are becoming increasingly distinct professions.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1-3: Distinguish forensic psychology from other forensic sciences.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Forensic Psychology, Forensic Psychiatry, and Forensic Social Work

Difficulty Level: Medium

5. In 2009, psychologists were granted permission to prescribe medication in all states.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1-3: Distinguish forensic psychology from other forensic sciences.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Forensic Psychology, Forensic Psychiatry, and Forensic Social Work

Difficulty Level: Easy

6. The term *forensic* refers to anything pertaining or potentially pertaining to law, both civil and criminal.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 1-3: Distinguish forensic psychology from other forensic sciences.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Forensic Psychology: An Overview

Difficulty Level: Medium

7. The five subspecialties of forensic psychology are mutually exclusive.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1-4: Identify and describe major subareas of forensic psychology.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Forensic Psychology: An Overview

Difficulty Level: Medium

8. Forensic psychiatry, forensic nursing, and forensic pathology are examples of forensic sciences.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 1-2: Identify career areas in the forensic sciences.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: The Forensic Sciences

Difficulty Level: Easy

9. The five subspecialties of forensic psychology that are illustrated in the text are all research focused.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1-4: Identify and describe major subareas of forensic psychology.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Forensic Psychology: An Overview

Difficulty Level: Medium

10. Psychologists began to testify in courts in increasing numbers during the 1940s and 1950s.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1-4 : Identify and describe major subareas of forensic psychology.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Brief History of Forensic Psychology

Difficulty Level: Easy

11. The minimum educational requirement for psychologists is the bachelor's degree.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1-5: Summarize the educational, training, and certification requirements to become a forensic psychologist.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Education and Training

Difficulty Level: Easy

12. Forensic psychology is recognized by the American Psychological Association as an applied specialty.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 1-5: Summarize the educational, training, and certification requirements to become a forensic psychologist.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Education and Training

Difficulty Level: Easy

13. Police psychology is synonymous with correctional psychology.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1-4: Identify and describe major subareas of forensic psychology.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Police and Public Safety Psychology

Difficulty Level: Medium

14. Family forensic psychologists are concerned with issues involving adoptions, elder law, and juvenile justice.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 1-4: Identify and describe major subareas of forensic psychology.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Family Forensic Psychology

Difficulty Level: Medium

15. Psychologists who are not themselves recent immigrants cannot understand many of the cultural and social barriers that immigrants face.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1-6: Illustrate roles and tasks performed by forensic psychologists.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: The Applied Specialties

Difficulty Level: Medium

16. Properly trained psychologists are allowed to prescribed medications

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 1-6: Illustrate roles and tasks performed by forensic psychologists

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Forensic Psychology, Forensic Psychiatry, and Forensic Social Work

Difficulty Level: Medium

Essay

1. Provide a detailed description of one forensic science (other than psychology) discussed in the chapter. Explain why this science is considered “forensic.”

Ans: Answers may include forensic engineering, forensic linguistics, forensic oceanography, forensic medicine, forensic digital investigation, forensic social work, forensic nursing, forensic pathology, forensic anthropology, or forensic archaeology. All of these involve work that pertains to law, both civil and criminal.

Learning Objective: 1-2: Identify career areas in the forensic sciences.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: The Forensic Sciences

Difficulty Level: Hard

2. Compare and contrast the PsyD and PhD degree.

Ans: The PhD degree (doctor of philosophy) requires a dissertation and is well accepted in the academic world as appropriate preparation for scientists and scholars in many fields across the globe. It is regarded primarily as a research-based degree. The PsyD (doctor of psychology) is a graduate degree designed primarily for students who wish to become practitioners or clinicians rather than researchers. PsyD programs usually place strong emphasis on clinical training, while PhD programs place strong emphasis on understanding and engaging in scientific research. However, the line of demarcation between these degrees is somewhat blurred.

Learning Objective: 1-5: Summarize the educational, training, and certification requirements to become a forensic psychologist.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Graduate Training, Doctoral Level

Difficulty Level: Hard

3. Differentiate between the broad and narrow definitions of forensic psychology. Why is it important to distinguish between these two definitions?

Ans: The narrow definition may be too restrictive because it seems to imply a specialty called “forensic clinical psychology.” It excludes clinicians who perform corrections-related tasks. The broad definition includes not only clinicians (also called practitioners) but also social, developmental, counseling, cognitive, experimental, industrial-organizational, and school psychologists--some but not all of whom are clinicians. The American Psychology-Law Society endorses a broad definition.

Learning Objective: 1-1: Define forensic psychology and trace its historical development.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Forensic Psychology: An Overview

Difficulty Level: Hard

4. Choose two of the forensic psychology subspecialties and discuss their similarities and differences. Include at least two tasks performed by each specialty.

Ans: Answers may include two of the following: (1) police and public safety psychology, (2) legal psychology, (3) psychology of crime and delinquency, (4) victimology and victim services, and (5) correctional psychology.

Learning Objective: 1-4 | 1-6: Identify and describe major subareas of forensic psychology | Illustrate roles and tasks performed by forensic psychologists.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Research and Practice Careers in Forensic Psychology

Difficulty Level: Hard

5. Define the following terms as they pertain to forensic psychology: *joint degree*, *state certification*, *board certification*, and *diplomate*.

Ans: A joint degree is a dual degree obtained at the same, or an associated, institution. Students who are equally interested in law and psychology may earn both a PhD and a Juris Doctor degree in law (JD) or a PhD and a master's degree in legal studies (MLS). State certification is offered in approximately 17 states and permits the psychologist to engage in forensic practice, such as conducting competency evaluations for the courts or assessing sexually violent offenders who may be subjected to civil commitment proceedings. Board certification can add stature to an individual's credentials if he or she is called to testify in court. On a national level, the predominant organization that provides board certification in forensic psychology is the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP), the American Board of Forensic Psychology (ABFP), and the American Board of Psychological Specialties (ABPS), which is affiliated with the American College of Forensic Examiners (ACFE). Criteria used by the various boards and organizations to grant credentials or titles vary widely. A diplomate is a professional designation signifying that a person has been certified as having advanced knowledge, skills, and competence in a particular specialty. Diplomate certification in forensic psychology attests to the fact that an established organization of peers has examined

and accepted the psychologist as being at the highest level of excellence in his or her field of forensic practice. The psychologist must be licensed to qualify for diplomate status.

Learning Objective: 1-5: Summarize the educational, training, and certification requirements to become a forensic psychologist.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Educational and Training Requirements

Difficulty Level: Medium

6. Identify three ethical issues that face forensic psychologists today.

Ans: Answers may include discussion of psychologists' authority to prescribe medication, conflicts of interest, participation in military interrogations, making recommendations in child custody cases, conducting violence risk assessments in death penalty cases, labeling juveniles as psychopathic, establishing proper boundaries between assessment and treatment, and work with undocumented immigrants.

Learning Objective: 1-3: Distinguish forensic psychology from other forensic sciences.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Ethical Issues

Difficulty Level: Medium

7. Describe some of the psychological stressors that are unique to the immigrant population. What are the reasons for this?

Ans: Immigrants may experience anxiety, depression, suicidal ideation, serious mental illness, or posttraumatic stress. Many fear for the safety of relatives and friends facing persecution or violence in another country. The 21st century has become a time when many immigrant groups are viewed with suspicion, targeted for selective prosecution, subjected to hate crimes, and in some cases threatened with deportation. For example, immigrants faced mounting stressors in 2017, when presidential executive orders either barred travel from specific countries or halted entry into the United States for many refugees seeking sanctuary. Since the turn of the century, psychologists involved in assessing or treating members of immigrant groups have reported numerous issues in both adults and children, ranging from posttraumatic stress, anxiety disorders, language barriers, and problems with acculturation. Immigrants who are undocumented often fear reporting victimization—such as domestic violence, sexual assault, and sex trafficking—so as not to bring attention to themselves. There are also social and cultural barriers to seeking mental health services.

Learning Objective: 1-6: Illustrate roles and tasks performed by forensic psychologists.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: The Applied Specialties

Difficulty Level: Hard

8. Describe the roles of a psychologist working within the field of psychology of crime and delinquency

Ans: Study how antisocial behavior is acquired, evoked, maintained and modified. Might examine ones thoughts, beliefs and values and how those relate to a life of crime.

Should include a discussion of either prevention, intervention or treatment strategies.

Learning Objective:1-6: Illustrate roles and tasks performed by forensic psychologists

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Psychology of Crime and Delinquency

Difficulty Level: Medium