

CHAPTER 1

What is Criminology?

Chapter 1 Multiple Choice

Choose the best answer for each of the following.

1. Which one of the following is not considered part of the definitional perspectives in contemporary criminology?

- a. political
- b. sociological
- c. mathematical
- d. legalistic

Answer: c

Objective: What is criminology? What do criminologists do?

Page number: 2

Level: Basic

2. Which definition of crime does this book take?

- a. legalistic
- b. psychological
- c. sociological
- d. mathematical

Answer: a

Objective: What is the theme of this book? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Page number: 2

Level: Basic

3. Which of the following is most likely to be considered both deviant and legal behavior?

- a. wearing a mohawk
- b. skinny dipping
- c. physical violence
- d. using narcotics

Answer: a

Objective: What is deviance? How are crime and deviance similar? How do they differ?

Page number: 4

Level: Intermediate

4. Sociologically speaking, many crimes can be regarded as _____ behavior.

- a. logical
- b. childish
- c. deviant
- d. common

Answer: c

Objective: What is deviance? How are crime and deviance similar? How do they differ?

Page number: 4

Level: Intermediate

5. Which of the following complicates defining a common deviant legal behavior?

- a. The Bill of Rights
- b. jurisdiction
- c. prostitution
- d. gambling

Answer: b

Objective: What is deviance? How are crime and deviance similar? How do they differ?

Page number: 4

Level: Difficult

6. Which of the following is not a commonly agreed-upon law established by the United States?

- a. rape
- b. murder
- c. gambling
- d. theft

Answer: c

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Page number: 4

Level: Intermediate

7. Which of the following is an example of the pluralistic view of the political process?

- a. deciding that all theft is socially unacceptable
- b. deciding that all theft is culturally acceptable
- c. deciding that new laws should be created after debate
- d. deciding that laws should not be debated

Answer: c

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Page number: 7

Level: Difficult

8. Which viewpoint says that the laws should be enacted as criminal forms of behavior when members of society generally agree that such laws are necessary?

- a. the sociologically perspective
- b. deviant ruling
- c. the pluralistic perspective
- d. the consensus perspective

Answer: d

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Page number: 6

Level: Basic

9. A criminalist specializes in which aspects of a crime?

- a. collecting and examining physical evidence
- b. examining witnesses

- c. interrogating the main suspect
- d. analyzing any traces of identity fraud

Answer: a

Objective: What is criminology? What do criminologists do?

Page number: 8

Level: Intermediate

10. Theoretical criminology posits explanations for _____.

- a. deviant behavior
- b. criminal behavior
- c. justice
- d. theory

Answer: b

Objective: What is criminology? What do criminologists do?

Page number: 13

Level: Basic

11. Experimental criminology uses _____ techniques to test the accuracy of theories about crime.

- a. social scientific
- b. scientific
- c. general theory
- d. mathematical

Answer: a

Objective: What is criminology? What do criminologists do?

Page number: 14

Level: Intermediate

12. The belief crime manifests from underlying social problems such as poverty, discrimination, and family violence is the _____ perspective.

- a. scientific
- b. pluralistic
- c. deviant
- d. social problems

Answer: d

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this textbook has chosen to use?

Page number: 15

Level: Basic

13. Advocates of the social responsibility approach to crime reduction support all of the following except _____.

- a. firm punishment
- b. imprisonments
- c. government-funded educational initiatives
- d. individualized rehabilitation

Answer: c

Objective: What is the theme of this book? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Page number: 16

Level: Intermediate

14. The social responsibility perspective on crime reduction focuses on the _____.

- a. individual
- b. society
- c. government
- d. justice system as a whole

Answer: a

Objective: What is the theme of this book? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Page number: 16

Level: Basic

15. This book recognizes that crime is not an isolated individual activity but a _____.

- a. social event
- b. economic event
- c. deviant event
- d. political event

Answer: a

Objective: What is the theme of this book? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Page number: 17

Level: Basic

16. An American visitor witnessing a crime in Japan may interpret the events differently than someone born within the Japanese culture. This is an example of _____.

- a. social event
- b. social relativity
- c. deviant relativity
- d. criminal event

Answer: b

Objective: What is the theme of this book? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Page number: 17

Level: Intermediate

17. Which field has contributed most to criminology?

- a. psychology
- b. sociology
- c. economics
- d. mathematics

Answer: b

Objective: What discipline has contributed the most to theoretical understandings of crime causation over the past century?

Page number: 22

Level: Basic

18. Decisions about what to do with a criminal are made through a _____.

- a. political process
- b. social process
- c. psychological process
- d. general theory

Answer: b

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Page number: 22

Level: Intermediate

19. Which of the following is not a role of a criminal justice professional?

- a. defense attorney
- b. social policy creator
- c. cybercrime investigator
- d. corrections officer

Answer: b

Objective: What is criminology? What do criminologists do?

Page number: 22

Level: Basic

20. This book sees crime as a _____ event.

- a. individual
- b. social
- c. political
- d. justifiable

Answer: b

Objective: What is the theme of this book? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Page number: 22

Level: Basic

Chapter 1 True-False

Choose whether each statement is true or false.

1. The legalistic perspective of crime can be defined as human conduct in violation of criminal laws of the state, the federal government, or a local jurisdiction that has power to make such laws.

a. True

b. False

Answer: True

Objective: What is criminology? What do criminologists do?

Page number: 2

Level: Basic

2. Without a law in place to circumscribe a particular behavior, there can be no crime.

a. True

b. False

Answer: True

Objective: What is criminology? What do criminologists do?

Page number: 2

Level: Intermediate

3. Laws are social products.

a. True

b. False

Answer: True

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Page number: 2

Level: Basic

4. In the legalistic perspective, the nature of crime can be separated from the nature of law.

a. True

b. False

Answer: False

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this textbook has chosen to use?

Page number: 3

Level: Intermediate

5. Deviant behavior is always a form of criminal activity.

a. True

b. False

Answer: False

Objective: What is deviance? How are crime and deviance similar? How do they differ?

Page number: 4

Level: Basic

6. Speeding on interstate highways is an example of an illegal behavior that is not deviant.
- a. True
 - b. False

Answer: True

Objective: What is deviance? How are crime and deviance similar? How do they differ?

Page number: 4

Level: Intermediate

7. Laws are made when members of society agree that the law should be created.
- a. True
 - b. False

Answer: True

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Page number: 6

Level: Basic

8. The federal government has the only say in making laws in the United States.
- a. True
 - b. False

Answer: False

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Page number: 6

Level: Basic

9. The United States does not use the political process to criminalize laws.
- a. True
 - b. False

Answer: False

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Page number: 7

Level: Basic

10. A prison program director is considered a criminologist.
- a. True
 - b. False

Answer: False

Objective: What is criminology? What do criminologists do?

Page number: 9

Level: Intermediate

11. Effective social policy is important because all crimes are political in nature.
- a. True
 - b. False

Answer: False

Objective: How is social policy in the area of crime control determined? What role does criminological research play in the establishment of such policy?

Page number: 21

Level: Basic

12. Many disciplines, including biology, economics, psychology, and sociology, have influenced the study of crime and crime causation.

a. True

b. False

Answer: True

Objective: How is social policy in the area of crime control determined? What role does criminological research play in the establishment of such policy?

Page number: 21

Level: Basic

13. Because crime is a social event, it can have more than one interpretation.

a. True

b. False

Answer: True

Objective: What does it mean to say that “criminal activity is diversely created and variously interpreted”?

Page number: 22

Level: Intermediate

14. Statutory law means that social events can be interpreted differently based on cultural experiences.

a. True

b. False

Answer: False

Objective: What does it mean to say that “criminal activity is diversely created and variously interpreted”?

Page number: 22

Level: Basic

15. Crime can be defined as a law-breaking event whose significance rises out of a social nexus of a variety of participants.

a. True

b. False

Answer: True

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this textbook has chosen to use?

Page number: 22

Level: Intermediate

Chapter 1 Fill in the Blank

Fill in the correct answer each of the following.

1. A serious shortcoming of the legalistic approach to crime is that it leaves _____ decisions to powerful individuals influencing the making of laws.

Answer: moral and ethical

Objective: What is criminology? What do criminologists do?

Page number: 2

Level: Difficult

2. A criminologist who believes the definition of crime should include all forms of antisocial behavior follows the _____ perspective of the field.

Answer: sociological

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this textbook has chosen to use?

Page number: 4

Level: Basic

3. When criminal behavior is described as a pronounced difficulty that the individual has in reacting to the environment, we can describe this view as the _____ perspective of criminal behavior.

Answer: psychological

Objective: What is criminology? What do criminologists do?

Page number: 4

Level: Basic

4. The United States is a multicultural society and uses the _____ perspective when deciding what should be considered criminal.

Answer: pluralistic

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Page number: 6

Level: Basic

5. A _____ studies crime, criminals, and criminal behavior.

Answer: criminologist

Objective: Who decides what should be criminal? How are such decisions made?

Page number: 8

Level: Basic

6. _____ is referred to as the dean of American criminology.

Answer: Edwin Sutherland

Objective: What is criminology? What do criminologists do?

Page number: 9

Level: Intermediate

7. Studying poverty and economic conditions in relation to criminal activity is an example of _____.

Answer: criminology

Objective: What is criminology? What do criminologists do?

Page number: 12

Level: Intermediate

8. Criminal justice is the _____ study of crime, criminal law, and the components of the criminal justice system.

Answer: scientific

Objective: What is criminology? What do criminologists do?

Page number: 12

Level: Basic

9. The field of _____ has contributed the most theoretical understandings of crime causation over the past century.

Answer: sociology

Objective: What discipline has contributed the most to theoretical understandings of crime causation over the past century?

Page number: 22

Level: Basic

10. Perpetrators of a crime should be dealt with individually. This is a belief of the _____ responsibility perspective.

Answer: social

Objective: What is the theme of this book? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Page number: 16

Level: Intermediate

11. Every crime has a unique set of causes, consequences, and participants. Understanding the _____ context of the crime helps criminologists understand criminal events that took place.

Answer: social

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this textbook has chosen to use?

Page number: 17

Level: Basic

Chapter 1 Matching

1. Please match the following role to the type of field or study within criminology.

1. Data gathering	a. Criminalistics
2. Forensics examiner	b. Criminal justice
3. Parole officer	c. Criminologist
4. Corrections officer	
5. Crime-scene investigator	
6. Prison program director	
7. Public advocacy	
8. Crime-laboratory technician	
9. Cybercrime investigator	
10. Social policy creator	

- 1. *c
- 2. *a
- 3. *b
- 4. *b
- 5. *a
- 6. *b
- 7. *c
- 8. *a
- 9. *b
- 10. *c

Objective: What is criminology? What do criminologists do?

Page number: 8-10

Level: Intermediate

Chapter 1 Essay

Answer the following questions.

1. What are the similarities and differences between criminal behavior and deviant behavior?

Please explain with examples of each.

Answer: Answers should include the definition of deviant behavior violating social norms and criminal behavior as violation of a criminal law set by a form of government. Examples should vary.

Objective: What is deviance? How are crime and deviance similar? How do they differ?, What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this textbook has chosen to use?

Page number: 2-4 and 4-6

Level: Difficult

2. What is the study of criminology and the different types of career paths available in the discipline?

Answer: Answers should define the study of criminology as the study of crime, define criminologists as engaged in the study of crime/criminal behaviors, and explain a few of the types of career paths for criminology including the fields of criminal justice and criminalistics.

Objective: What is criminology? What do criminologists do?

Page number: 8-10

Level: Intermediate

3. What are the two contrasting viewpoints on which the book is built?

Answer: Answers should explain the two contrasting perspectives now popular in American society: social problems perspective and the individual responsibility perspective.

Objective: What is the theme of this book? Upon what two contrasting viewpoints does it build?

Page number: 15-16

Level: Basic

Chapter 1 Critical Thinking

Answer the following questions.

1. What limitations do we see with the legal perspective of crime?

Answer: Answers should define the legal perspective of crime as human conduct in violation of the criminal laws set by the government. Answers should address some of the following limitations discussed in the textbook: yielding moral high ground to powerful individuals with influence on the law; that social, ethical, and individual significance influence immoral forms of behavior; and that the legalistic definition also suffers from lack of recognition that formalized laws have not always existed.

Objective: What is crime? What is the definition of crime that the author of this textbook has chosen to use?

Page number: 2-4

Level: Difficult

2. How do the different roles of criminologists, criminalities, and criminal justice vary in the field? How do these roles contribute to the field of criminology? Who contributes to social policy?

Answer: Answers should make the distinction between criminologists, criminalities, and criminal justice based on textbook definitions found on page 9. They should explain that criminologists contribute to the study of the field and development of policy, criminalities collect physical evidence of specific crimes, and criminal justice professionals work in the criminal justice system helping uphold the laws already created.

Objective: What is criminology? What do criminologists do?, How is social policy in the area of crime control determined? What role does criminological research play in the establishment of such policy?

Page number: 8-10

Level: Intermediate

CHAPTER 2

Where Do Theories Come From?

Chapter 2 Multiple Choice

Choose the best answer for each of the following.

1. The “evidence” in evidence-based criminology refers to
- witnesses of the crime.
 - fingerprints found at the crime.
 - experimental scientific findings.
 - social discussions.

Answer: c

Objective: What is evidence-based criminology? How does the meaning of the word evidence in evidence-based criminology differ from the evidence found at a crime scene or used in criminal trials?

Page number: 27

Level: Intermediate

2. Which of the following is not an example of a scientific endeavor?
- building a database of information
 - investigating the relationship between gathered facts
 - investigating paranormal phenomena
 - interrogating witnesses at the scene of the crime

Answer: d

Objective: What three eras have characterized the field of criminology over the past 100 years?

Page number: 28

Level: Difficult

3. Unveiling _____ moves criminology beyond the merely descriptive and into the realm of theory building.
- facts
 - causality
 - witnesses
 - laws

Answer: b

Objective: What three eras have characterized the field of criminology over the past 100 years?

Page number: 28

Level: Intermediate

4. Which of the following is not an example of a theory?
- Crime rates have increased this year.
 - Poverty is a root cause of crime.
 - Illegal drug usage is a result of poverty.
 - Theft is higher among poor individuals.

Answer: a

Objective: What is a theory? What purposes do theories serve? What role does research and experimentation play in theory building in criminology?

Page number: 29

Level: Intermediate

5. Stating a claim that breaking the cycle of poverty will reduce crime is an example of a
- a. theory-based hypothesis.
 - b. correlation observed.
 - c. question about a cause.
 - d. theory-based social policy.

Answer: a

Objective: What is a theory? What purposes do theories serve? What role does research and experimentation play in theory building in criminology?

Page number: 29

Level: Intermediate

6. Theories help us with all of the following except
- a. providing patterns for interpretation of data.
 - b. creating larger understandings for human behavior.
 - c. creating singular understandings for human behavior.
 - d. building frameworks for understanding concepts.

Answer: c

Objective: What is a theory? What purposes do theories serve? What role does research and experimentation play in theory building in criminology?

Page number: 31

Level: Intermediate

7. Concepts are made measurable through the process of
- a. secondary research.
 - b. primary research.
 - c. operationalization.
 - d. hypothesis.

Answer: c

Objective: What is the role of criminological research in theory building? What is internal validity? External validity? How can threats to internal and external validity be addressed?

Page number: 32

Level: Basic

8. Which of the following is not a general stage of scientific research?
- a. choice of data collection techniques
 - b. problem identification
 - c. development of research design
 - d. hypothesis testing

Answer: d

Objective: What is the role of criminological research in theory building? What is internal validity? External validity? How can threats to internal and external validity be addressed?

Page number: 32

Level: Difficult

9. Which concept can undergo a measurable change in research?

- a. primary research.
- b variable.
- c. data.
- d. operationalization.

Answer: b

Objective: What is the role of criminological research in theory building? What is internal validity? External validity? How can threats to internal and external validity be addressed?

Page number: 32

Level: Basic

10. Differential selection is an example of

- a. internal validity.
- b. external validity.
- c. hypothesis testing.
- d. operationalization.

Answer: a

Objective: What is the role of criminological research in theory building? What is internal validity? External validity? How can threats to internal and external validity be addressed?

Page number: 34

Level: Intermediate

11. Which of the following is not an example of internal validity?

- a. history
- b. multiple-treatment interference
- c. statistical regression
- d. instrumentation

Answer: b

Objective: What is the role of criminological research in theory building? What is internal validity? External validity? How can threats to internal and external validity be addressed?

Page number: 34

Level: Intermediate

12. Scientific theory building in criminology has developed through the combination of the following except

- a. hypothesis building.
- b. systematic observation.
- c. operationalization.
- d. generalized deductions.

Answer: d

Objective: What is the role of criminological research in theory building? What is internal validity? External validity? How can threats to internal and external validity be addressed?

Page number: 36

Level: Difficult

13. _____ is a strategy in data gathering in which the researcher observes a group by participating to varying degrees with the group.

- a. Hypothesis testing
- b. Secondary research
- c. Participant observation
- d. Pure research

Answer: c

Objective: What is the role of criminological research in theory building? What is internal validity? External validity? How can threats to internal and external validity be addressed?

Page number: 37

Level: Basic

14. Which of the following is a common problem in data collection for criminologists?

- a. hypothesis testing
- b. statistical regression
- c. participant observation
- d. intersubjectivity

Answer: d

Objective: What is the role of criminological research in theory building? What is internal validity? External validity? How can threats to internal and external validity be addressed?

Page number: 38-89

Level: Intermediate

15. Which method is a research technique that produces measurable results?

- a. pure research
- b. quantitative method
- c. qualitative method
- d. participant observation

Answer: b

Objective: What are the differences between quantitative and qualitative methods in social sciences? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each method?

Page number: 40

Level: Basic

16. What sections are not typically included in a research report?

- a. author's bio
- b. abstract
- c. statement of hypothesis
- d. findings and results

Answer: a

Objective: What sections might a typical research report contain?

Page number: 48

Level: Intermediate

17. Which of the following is an example of the code of ethics for researchers?

- a. exercising objectivity in research
- b. stating a clear hypothesis
- c. conducting participant observation
- d. research reports

Answer: a

Objective: What are some of the ethical considerations involved in conducting criminological research?

Page number: 45

Level: Intermediate

18. Which of the following is an example of a dilemma facing criminologists hoping to use statistical evidence to influence social policy?

- a. common laws
- b. three-strikes laws
- c. deviant behavior
- d. participant observation

Answer: b

Objective: How do criminological research and experimental criminology impact social policy?

Page number: 46

Level: Intermediate

19. A _____ is a study of other studies, and it often helps criminologists influence social policy.

- a. common law
- b. research program
- c. meta-analysis
- d. participant observation

Answer: c

Objective: How do criminological research and experimental criminology impact social policy?

Page number: 47

Level: Basic

20. What is the primary medium in which criminologists publish research?

- a. common laws
- b. research programs
- c. professional journals
- d. newspapers

Answer: c

Objective: What sections might a typical research report contain?

Page number: 50

Level: Basic