

Sociology 401 – Crime and the Life Course

Fall Quarter 2018

STUDY GUIDE FOR THE FINAL EXAM

The final exam for Sociology 401 will take place on Thursday December 13, 4:30-6:20pm. Please be sure to bring (a) a scan sheet and (b) a number 2 pencil.

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

The first exam will cover the following topics, including the readings listed plus the lecture material:

I. Genetics, Families, and Child Behavior Problems

- A. Heredity and Environment
- B. Genes Select Environments
 - 1. Passively, through parents
 - 2. Actively, via child agency
 - 3. Evocatively via environment selects
 - 4. Interactively via interaction with child
- C. Empirical Research
 - 1. Caspi et al. (2002) MAOA interacts with child maltreatment
 - 2. Guo et al. (2008) MAOA, DAT1, DAT2 interact with environment
- D. Parenting and Delinquency
 - 1. Baumrind's styles of parenting (authoritative, authoritarian, permissive neglectful parenting)
 - 2. Empirical research: Physical punishment and authoritarian parenting
 - 3. Class and conformity (Kohn)
 - 4. Class, parenting, and violence (Heimer)
 - 5. Parenting as interaction
- E. Readings
 - Bensen (2013), Chapters 2 and 3 (pp. 33-77).
 - Sandra Scarr and Kathleen McCartney. 1983. "How People make their Own Environments: A Theory of Genotype → Environment Effects." *Child Development* 54:424-435.
 - Guo, Guang, Michael Roettger, and Tianji Cai. 2008. "The Integration of Genetic Propensities into Social Control Models of Delinquency and Violence among Male Youths." *American Sociological Review* 73:543-568.
 - Grigoryeva, Maria. 2017. "Strategic Action or Self-Control? Adolescent Information Management and Delinquency." *Social Science Research* 72:225-239.

II. Adulthood: Marriage, Motherhood, and Desistance

- A. The Mating Game (Elijah Anderson)
 - 1. Adaptation to disadvantage by street males and females
 - 2. Mating game as a contest between girls and boys
 - 3. Pregnancy and baby clubs
- B. Why Poor Mothers put Motherhood before Marriage (Edin and Kefalas)
 - 1. Poor mothers revere institution of marriage
 - 2. Girls hook up early
 - 3. News of pregnancy and decision to bring pregnancy to term
 - 4. Motherhood provides meaning in life
 - 5. The dream dies
- C. Motherhood and Desistance
 - 1. Addressing selection into motherhood
 - 2. Motherhood and desistance results
- D. Readings:
 - Benson (2013), Chapter 5 (pp. 123-148).
 - Edin, Kathryn, and Maria Kefalas. 2005. *Promises I Can Keep: Why Poor Women Put Motherhood Before Marriage*. Los Angeles: University of California Press, Chapters 1-2 & 6.
 - Laub, John H., and Robert J. Sampson. 2003. *Shared Beginnings: Divergent Lives: Delinquent Boys to Age 70*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard. Chapter 6.
 - Kreager, Derek A., Ross L. Matsueda, and Elena A. Erosheva. 2010. "Motherhood and Criminal Desistance in Disadvantaged Neighborhoods." *Criminology* 48:221-258.

III. Work and Crime

- A. Trends in Unemployment by Race
- B. Jobs and Crime over the Life Course
 - 1. High school: jobs and delinquency
 - 2. National Supported Work Study
- C. Crime as Work
 - 1. Economic model: Utility maximization
 - 2. Prestige of criminal Occupations
 - 3. Illegal earnings.
 - 4. Sanction costs
- D. Readings:
 - Uggen, Christopher, and Sara Wakefield. 2008. "What Have we Learned from Longitudinal Studies of Work and Crime?" Pp. 191-219 in *The Long View of Crime: A Synthesis of Longitudinal Research*. Edited by A. Liberman. New York: Springer.

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

For the following questions, select the letter that corresponds to the SINGLE best answer. Multiple answers will be counted wrong.

1. As discussed in lecture, in disadvantaged neighborhoods, motherhood is associated with:
 - a. an increase in criminal behavior but a decrease in drug use.
 - b. an increase in drug use but a decrease in criminal behavior.
 - c. a decrease in both drug use and criminal behavior.
 - d. an increase in both drug use and criminal behavior.
 - e. none of the above.
2. In their article, "How People Make their Own Environments," Scarr and McCartney (1983) argue that genes are correlated with environments through which selection processes?
 - a. passive selection via parental selection
 - b. evocative selection via selection by environments
 - c. actively by children exercising agency
 - d. all of the above
 - e. a and c only.
3. As discussed in lecture, the National Supported Work Demonstration Project randomly assigned chronically unemployed individuals to supported work jobs versus a control group and found:
 - a. the program showed a positive treatment effect for early cohorts into the study
 - b. the program showed a positive treatment effect for the drug addict sample
 - c. the program showed a positive treatment effect for offenders older than 30
 - d. all of the above.
 - e. none of the above.

Answers: c, d, d