**Criminology Comprehensive Exam POLICY**

**Doctoral Program in Criminology**

**School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences**

**University of Texas at Dallas**

**November 2020**

**Instructions**

You have six (6) hours to complete the Policy portion of the comprehensive exam.

Your answers will be evaluated on their organization, coherence, clarity, intellectual rigor, substantive validity, conceptual development, and application of relevant literature to the question at hand.

Answers must be emailed to [scotch@utdallas.edu](mailto:scotch@utdallas.edu) before 4:00pm today (11/8/2020).

We wish you success!

**POLICY QUESTIONS**

**Answer ONE of the following:**

Question 1

With the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery, among many others, police-race relations are more strained than ever. You have been asked by the mayor of your city to attend a public forum and explain to a diverse audience what must be done to improve the situation. What evidence-based policy recommendations would you make to appease both sides? Is doing so even possible? Why or why not?

Question 2

Historically, criminal justice policy has had punishment as the centerpiece. How effective has this focus on incarceration and control been at reducing crime and recidivism? What have researchers learned about the effects of incapacitation and deterrence? In light of what researchers have found, what recommendations do you have about justice policy going forward?