**Criminology Comprehensive Exam POLICY**

**Doctoral Program in Criminology**

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

**University of Texas at Dallas**

**November 2021**

**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 (11/7/2020).

We wish you success!

**POLICY QUESTIONS**

**Answer ONE of the following:**

Question 1

Citing relevant research literature, identify and explain (in detail) two broadly employed

crime/justice polices that you feel have been scrutinized or assessed the “best.” In other

words, which policies have been subjected to the most rigorous analysis? What does

recent science tell us? Has the policy always fared well under such scrutiny? Be sure to

provide a detailed explanation of how you come to your conclusions. In other words,

what were the methods used to assess those policies and why were they adequate?

Question 2

Explain the concept of evidence-based justice. As part of your answer, explain the

impetus behind the evidence-based justice movement. Discuss arguments for and against

it. Be sure to discuss key works in the field, the methods used in those studies, whether those methods were sufficiently adequate and rigorous (and why), and their respective contributions to crime control policy.