

UCR Sociology Criminology Specialization  
Qualifying Exam  
Core theory reading list

**Biological/Trait Theories of Crime**

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**Control Theories of Crime**

- Gottfredson, Michael R. and Travis Hirschi. 1990. *A General Theory of Crime*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- Hagan, John. 1989. *Structural Criminology*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.
- Hirschi, Travis. 1969. *Causes of Delinquency*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
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- Laub, John H., Robert J. Sampson, and Leana C. Allen. 2001. "Explaining Crime Over the Life Course: Towards a Theory of Age-Graded Informal Social Control." Pp. 97-112 in *Explaining Criminals and Crime*, edited by Raymond Paternoster and Ronet Bachman. Los Angeles: Roxbury Publishing.

Laub, J. H., & Sampson, R.J. (1995). "Turning points in the life course: Why change matters in the study of crime." *Criminology*, 31, 301-325.

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### **Deterrence, Rational Choice, and Routine Activities Theories of Crime**

Beccaria, Cesare. [1775] 2003. "An Essay on Crimes and Punishment." Pp. 20-22 in *Criminological Theory: Past to Present*, edited by Francis T. Cullen and Robert Agnew. Los Angeles Roxbury Publishing.

Clarke, Ronald V., and Derek B. Cornish. 2001. "Rational Choice." Pp. 23-41 in *Explaining Criminals and Crime*, edited by Raymond Paternoster and Ronet Bachman. Los Angeles: Roxbury Publishing.

Cohen, Lawrence E., and Marcus Felson. 1979. "Social Change and Crime Rate Trends: A Routine Activity Approach." *American Journal of Sociology* 44:588-608.

Cornish, Derek B., and Ronald V. Clarke. [1986] 2003. "Crime as a Rational Choice." Pp. 278-283 in *Criminological Theories: Past to Present*, edited by Francis T. Cullen and Robert Agnew. Los Angeles: Roxbury Publishing.

Cullen, Francis T., and Robert Agnew. 2003. "Reviving Classical Theory: Deterrence, Rational Choice, and Routine Activities Theories." Pp. 263-271 in *Criminological Theories: Past to Present*, edited by Francis T. Cullen and Robert Agnew. Los Angeles: Roxbury Publishing.

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### **Social Disorganization Theories of Crime**

Bursik, Robert, Jr. and Harold G. 1993. *Neighborhoods and Crime: The Dimensions of Effective Community Control*. New York: Lexington Books.

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- Krivo, Lauren J. and Ruth D. Peterson. 1996. "Extremely Disadvantaged Neighborhoods and Urban Crime." *Social Forces* 75:619-648
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### **Anomie and Strain Theories of Crime**

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### **Learning Theories of Crime**

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### **Labeling Theories of Crime**

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Schur, Edwin. *Crimes without victims; deviant behavior and public policy: abortion, homosexuality, drug addiction*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall

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### **Developmental Theories of Crime**

Cullen, Francis T., and Robert Agnew. 2003. "Developmental Theories: Crime and the Life Course." Pp. 441-449 in *Criminological Theory: Past to Present*, edited by Francis T. Cullen and Robert Agnew. Los Angeles: Roxbury University Press.

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### **Critical, Conflict and Marxist Theories of Crime**

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- Greenberg, David F. [1977] 2003. "Delinquency and the Age Structure of Society." Pp. 357-366 in *Criminological Theory: Past to Present*, edited by Francis T. Cullen and Robert Agnew. Los Angeles: Roxbury Publishing.
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### **Feminist and Gendered Theories of Crime**

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### **Theory Integration and Competition: Theory Development**

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