The reading list for the criminal justice comprehensive examination is designed to provide students with a substantive knowledge base pertaining to the societal responses to crime. The list includes the readings that the faculty has deemed essential knowledge for students who graduate from the university with the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Criminology and Criminal Justice. You also should be familiar with relevant literature published in the major journals of the field and/or covered in your coursework, even if these readings do not appear on the list. Major journals include Criminology, Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency, Crime and Delinquency, Justice Quarterly, Journal of Quantitative Criminology, Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology, Law and Society Review, American Sociological Review, American Journal of Sociology, Social Problems, Social Forces, Criminal Justice and Behavior, and Journal of Criminal Justice.

A successful examination demonstrates an ability to apply understanding of the criminal justice literature to broad questions facing the field. Rarely is the inclusion or exclusion of a single article or book sufficient to warrant a “pass” or “fail.” Instead, you must demonstrate conversational familiarity with relevant issues and the extant literature and show that you possess the knowledge base necessary to produce an informed and well thought out answer. Thus, rather than simply memorize what the authors of the items on the list say, you will need to focus on synthesizing the literature in a way that shows you understand it and have thought about how individual readings might fit together.

**READINGS**

The readings below are organized into different subareas. However, as you read the literature, you will become aware that some of the readings that are listed under one subarea also could fit within other subareas. As you read, you should think about whether particular readings might be useful to answer potential questions pertaining to several the subareas.

**Criminal/Juvenile Courts & Law**


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Policing


Rosenfeld, R., & Wallman, J. (2019). Did de-policing cause the increase in homicide rates? *Criminology & Public Policy*, 18(1), 51-75.


**Corrections**


