

UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE

**FUNDAMENTAL
CRIMINOLOGY**

DEGREE EXAMINATIONS

MAY/JUNE

2025

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Time: 3 Hours
Subject: CRIMINOLOGY (Fundamental Criminology)
Code: CRM 512
Marks: 100

**This paper consists of 3 pages including
cover page.**

Internal Examiners

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INSTRUCTIONS

- This paper has two sections: Section A and Section B.
- Section A consists of four questions; answer all questions.
- Section B consists of three questions; answer any two questions.
- Write neatly and legibly.
- Number your answers correctly.

SECTION A (ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION)

QUESTION 1

The Khayelitsha Commission of Inquiry (2020–2023) highlighted serious failures in policing, including poor response times and a lack of community trust. As a response, community policing forums (CPF's) were revitalized. Over time:

- ✓ *Crime reporting improved due to better community-police relations.*
- ✓ *CPF's helped police identify problem areas and repeat offenders.*
- ✓ *Youth programs were introduced to prevent gangsterism and drug use.*

NB: While not without challenges, this model has shown that community involvement can reduce crime and improve trust in law enforcement.

1. How do community perceptions of police legitimacy influence the success of community policing strategies in urban informal settlements like Khayelitsha?

[10 marks]

QUESTION 2

2. To what extent has implementing community policing contributed to crime prevention and public safety in marginalized communities in South Africa?

[15 marks]

QUESTION 3

In Gauteng, one of the most crime-affected provinces, SAPS collaborated with the Gauteng Provincial Government and municipalities to integrate smart technologies:

- ✓ *Over 15,000 CCTV cameras were installed in key urban areas.*
- ✓ *Automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) technology has helped track stolen vehicles.*
- ✓ *Integration of crime data across departments improved response time and predictive policing.*
- ✓ *The "E-policing" initiative includes mobile apps for citizens to report crimes anonymously.*

3. What are the main barriers faced by SAPS in fully leveraging emerging technologies to combat modern crimes such as cybercrime and organised syndicates?

[15 mark]

SECTION B (ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION)

QUESTION 4

4. Critically discuss the evolution of criminology as a discipline. In your answer, highlight at least three major theoretical shifts and their implications for crime prevention.

[30 marks]

QUESTION 5

5. Apply Routine Activity Theory to explain the rise of cybercrime in the South African context. In your response, discuss how the theory accounts for key factors driving cybercrime and critically assess its limitations in addressing complex, technology-driven offences.

[30 marks]

QUESTION 6

6. Critically analyse how the Classical and Positivist schools of thought have influenced modern crime prevention and criminal justice policies. In your response, evaluate their strengths and limitations in addressing contemporary crimes, and illustrate the shift to modern criminological approaches using relevant examples, preferably from South Africa.

[30 marks]

