The following is an outline of the content areas covered in the examination. The approximate percentage of the examination devoted to each content area is also noted.

I. Criminal Behavior – 15%
   a. Defining crime (i.e., what is crime, accepted definitions of crime)
   b. Types of crime
   c. Juvenile delinquency (i.e., emergence, trends, causation)
   d. Measurement of crime and delinquency (i.e., UCR, NVCS, evaluation, survey data, research data, methods of data collection)
   e. Crime in the United states (i.e., rate, trends)
   f. Theories of crime

II. Criminal Justice System – 25%
   a. Historical origins and legal foundations (i.e., statutory, common law, case law, procedural and substantive law etc.)
   b. Crime control model versus due process model
   c. Criminal justice agencies (i.e., law enforcement, courts and corrections)

III. Law Enforcement – 20%
   a. History of policing
   b. Types of law enforcement agencies
   c. Law enforcement roles and responsibilities
   d. Issues and trends in policing
   e. The nature of law enforcement (i.e., PTSD, use of discretion, subculture and demographics (e.g., race, gender, age, etc.)

IV. Court System – 20%
   a. History of the court system
   b. Organization, structure and levels of the court system
   c. Adult and Juvenile court systems
d. Pretrial, trial and post-trial processes (e.g., bail, plea bargaining, prosecutorial discretion, judicial
discretion, diversion, waiver, jury, and verdict)
e. Sentencing options and trends

V. Corrections – 20%
a. History of corrections
b. Philosophies of punishment (e.g., rehabilitation, restoration, deterrence, incapacitation,
retribution)
c. Intermediate sanctions (i.e., probation, parole)
d. Adult prison facilities (i.e., administration and overcrowding)
e. Juvenile correctional facilities (i.e., types, functions, and controversies)
f. Capital punishment (i.e., controversies)
g. Inmate characteristics (i.e., subculture, gangs and demographics)
h. Issues and trends (i.e., inmate rights, security, healthcare, privatization and wrongful conviction)

REFERENCES
Below is a list of reference publications that were either used as a reference to create the exam, or were used
as textbooks in college courses of the same or similar title at the time the test was developed. You may
reference either the current edition of these titles or textbooks currently used at a local college or university for
the same class title. It is recommended that you reference more than one textbook on the topics outlined in this
fact sheet.

You should begin by checking textbook content against the content outline provided before selecting textbooks
that cover the test content from which to study.

Sources for study material are suggested but not limited to the following:

1. Cole, George F; Smith, Christopher E; DeJong, Christina (2017). The American System of Criminal

SAMPLE QUESTIONS
All test questions are in a multiple-choice format, with one correct answer and three incorrect options. The
following are samples of the types of questions that may appear on the exam.

1. The three major divisions of the criminal justice system are
   a. police, defense, and prosecution
   b. courts, prosecution, and police
   c. prosecution, defense, and courts
   d. police, courts, and corrections

2. Which of the following crimes against a person does society consider to be the most serious?
   a. manslaughter
   b. assault
   c. murder
   d. rape

3. The juvenile court in the United States is based on the doctrine of
   a. habeas corpus
b. parens patriae  
c. nolo contendere  
d. modus operandi

4. In the United States, which of the following types of correctional institutions typically has the poorest physical facilities and services?  
   a. county jail  
   b. halfway house  
   c. state prison  
   d. federal prison

5. All of the following are characteristics of criminal acts EXCEPT  
   a. criminal intent  
   b. insanity  
   c. harm to a person  
   d. criminal capacity

Answers to sample questions:  
1-D; 2-C; 3-B; 4-A; 5-B