



Ryan Meldrum

To: Nicholas Baima, Frank de la Torre

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Thu 10/2/2025 9:52 AM

Hi Nich,

It was great to chat with you about the new Philosophy track and our new minor. Very happy we are able to support one another's initiatives!

Ryan

Ryan Charles Meldrum, PhD

Director and Professor
School of Criminology and Criminal Justice
College of Social Work & Criminal Justice
Florida Atlantic University
fau.edu/sw-cj
(561) 297-2461
Social Science Building, Room 208E

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"To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift." - Steve Prefontaine



From: Nicholas Baima <nbaima@fau.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, October 1, 2025 11:55 AM
To: Ryan Meldrum <meldrumr@fau.edu>; Frank de la Torre <fdelat1@fau.edu>
Subject: Re: Mock Trial Team

Hi Ryan and Frank,

It was a pleasure to meet with both of you today. I appreciate you approving the new Philosophy, Ethics, and Law Track for the Philosophy BA. Also, the Philosophy Department supports the new Minor in Criminal Law and are happy to offer Philosophy of Law (PHM 3400) as an elective course for the minor.

All the best,

Nich

Nicholas R. Baima
Chair of Department of Philosophy
Associate Professor of Philosophy
Florida Atlantic University
<https://sites.google.com/site/nicholasrbaima/>

[Why It's OK to Be a Gamer - 1st Edition - Sarah C. Malanowski - Nichol \(routledge.com\)](#)

[Plato's Pragmatism: Rethinking the Relationship between Ethics and E \(routledge.com\)](#)

From: Ryan Meldrum <rmeldrumr@fau.edu>
Sent: Friday, September 12, 2025 12:38 PM
To: Naelys Luna <ndiaz10@fau.edu>; Michael Horswell <HORSWELL@fau.edu>
Cc: Frank de la Torre <fdelat1@fau.edu>; Craig Burnett <burnette@fau.edu>
Subject: CCJ Minor in Criminal Law and POS BA in Public Law Discussion

Dear Dean Luna and Dean Horswell,

Craig, Frank, and I met this morning to discuss two matters:

1. The planned Minor in Criminal Law to be offered by the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, and
2. The planned BA in Public Law to be offered by the Department of Political Science.

Let me begin by saying how thrilled I am that Craig has joined FAU. Frank and I both found it very easy to work through the discussions with him. The Political Science Department is in excellent hands with Craig as Chair.

After working through discussions, we came to the following action plan that we wanted to run up to the two of you.

- a. The planned "Criminal Law and the Constitution" course that was to be one of the required courses for the minor in criminal law appears to have significant overlap with POS 4604 "Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties." Given this, we agreed that the class would be changed to "Criminal Law and the Constitution in Florida" and that the majority of the content in the class would focus on Florida-specific cases related to crime and constitutional law. The person we have developing the course has more than 30 years' experience as a criminal defense lawyer in FL, so this should be an easy adaptation for her.
- b. The following courses will be included in the larger list of elective courses for students seeking to complete the minor (1 elective course is required for the minor): POS 4606, POS 4603, POS 4604, POS 3691 and POS 4931 (the last one with approval as it's the special topics course).
- c. CCJ is supportive of the BA in public law. Several CCJ courses will be included as electives for the new BA in public law, and Craig will provide that list for us to review when it's ready.
- d. POS is not requiring any of their courses to be required courses for the minor in Criminal Law, and CCJ is not requiring any of their courses to be required courses for the BA in Public Law.

Respectfully,

Ryan