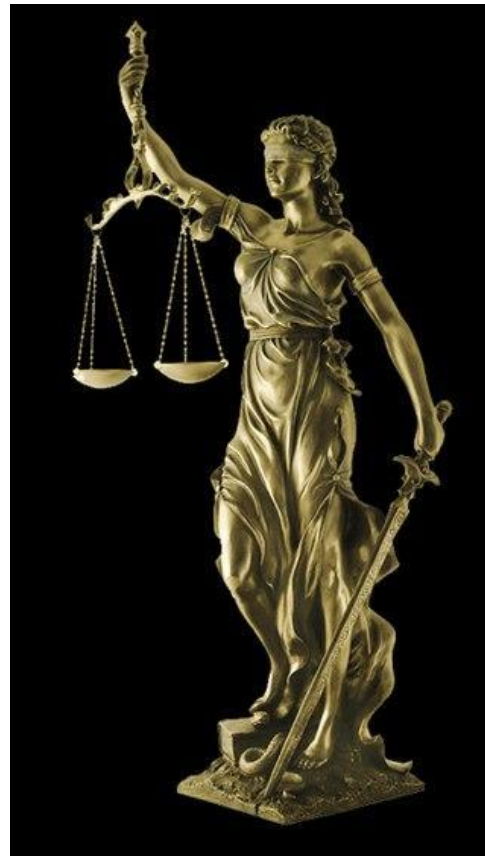


I'd like to welcome you all  
to this Law course.



# Plan of the introduction lecture:

1. The definition of law
2. The history of law
3. Purposes for law
4. Law as a system
5. Legal systems of the world
6. Dictionary of terms

# The definition of *law*

Law (legal statement) is a binding custom or practice of a community; a rule or mode of conduct or action that is prescribed or formally recognized as binding by a supreme controlling authority or is made obligatory by a sanction (as an edict, decree, rescript, order, ordinance, statute, resolution, rule, judicial decision, or usage) made, recognized, or enforced by the controlling authority.

# The history of *law*

The history of law links closely to the development of civilization. Ancient Egyptian law, dating as far back as 3000 BC, contained a civil code that was probably broken into twelve books.

The Biblical [Old Testament](#) dates back to 1280 BC and takes the form of moral imperatives as recommendations for a good society.

# Purposes for law include:

- to regulate human relations;
- to determine ownership/control of property;
- to fix parameters of freedom in community;
- to produce justice

# Law as a system of *branches*

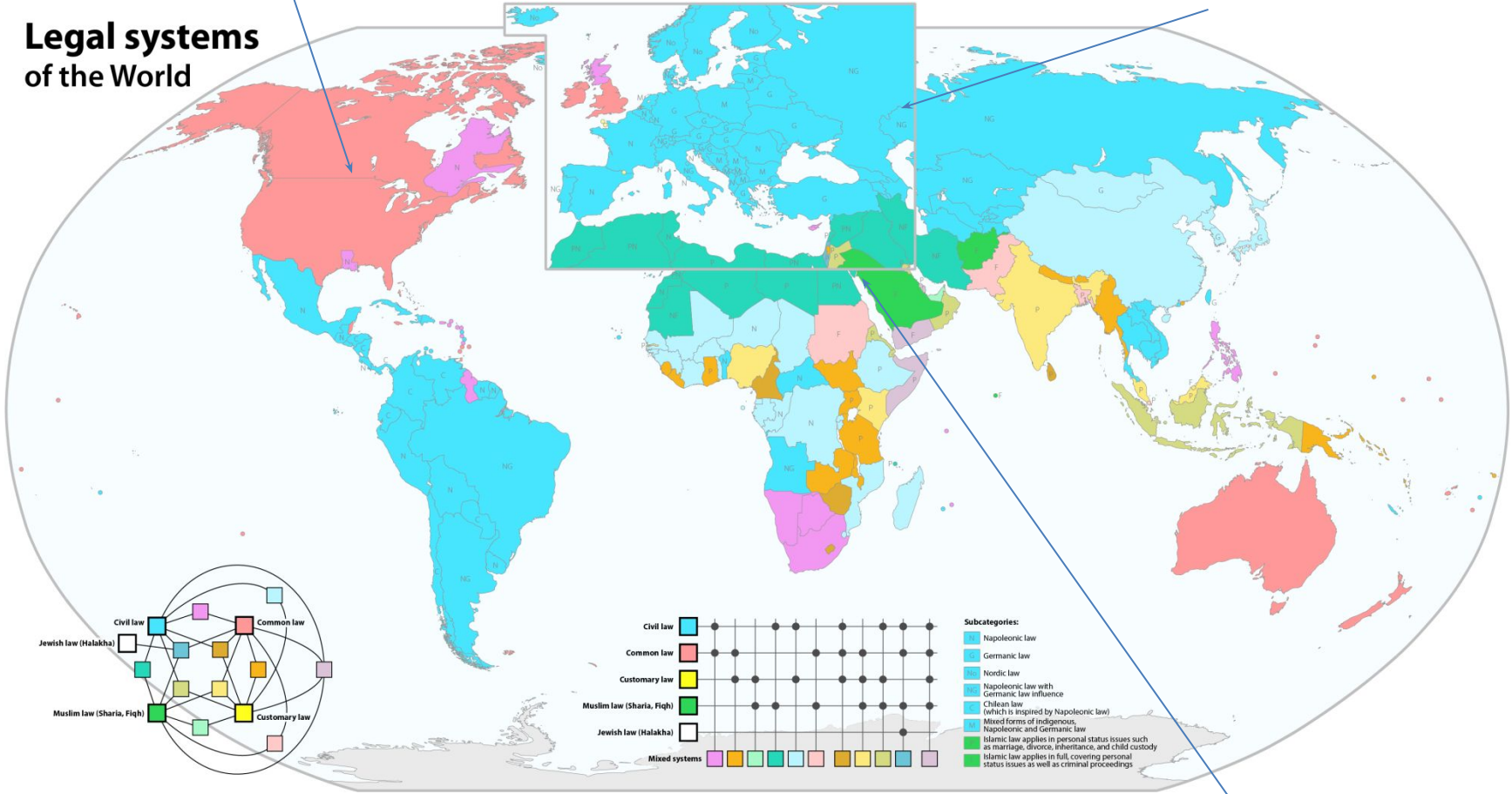
- Constitutional law
- Civil law (consists of Contract law, Property law, Trust law, Tort law)
- Criminal law
- Administrative law
- Labour law
- Family law
- International law

# Legal systems of the world

Anglo-saxon (common) law

Roman-germanic (civil) law

Legal systems of the World



Muslim (religious) law

# Dictionary of terms

## Basic terms

- [Law \(legal statement\)](#) is a binding custom or practice of a community; a rule or mode of conduct or action that is prescribed or formally recognized as binding by a supreme controlling authority or is made obligatory by a sanction.
- [State \(polity\)](#), an organized community living under a single political structure and government, sovereign or constituent.
- [Authority](#) is the [right](#) to exercise [power](#), which can be formalized by a [state](#) and exercised by way of judges, appointed executives of government, or the ecclesiastical or priestly appointed representatives of a God or other deities.
- [Legitimacy](#) is the [right](#) and acceptance of an [authority](#), usually a governing law or a [régime](#).
- [Codification](#) is the process of collecting and restating the law of a [jurisdiction](#) in certain areas, usually by subject, forming a [legal](#) code, i.e. a codex (book) of law.
- [Jurisdiction](#) is the practical [authority](#) granted to a legal body to administer justice within a defined field of responsibility.

## Keywords

- definition, purpose, system, term, criminal, civil, declare, legal, person, private, individual, regulate, group, constitutional, category, situation, protection, method, dispute, process, action, procedure , right result, régime, power, penalty.



A photograph of a misty forest path. The path is a narrow, winding trail of dark brown earth, leading into a dense forest. The trees are tall and slender, with thick trunks, and the ground is covered in lush green ferns and other forest plants. The atmosphere is soft and hazy, with mist or fog filling the air between the trees. The overall scene is serene and natural.

Thank you and have  
a  
great day!