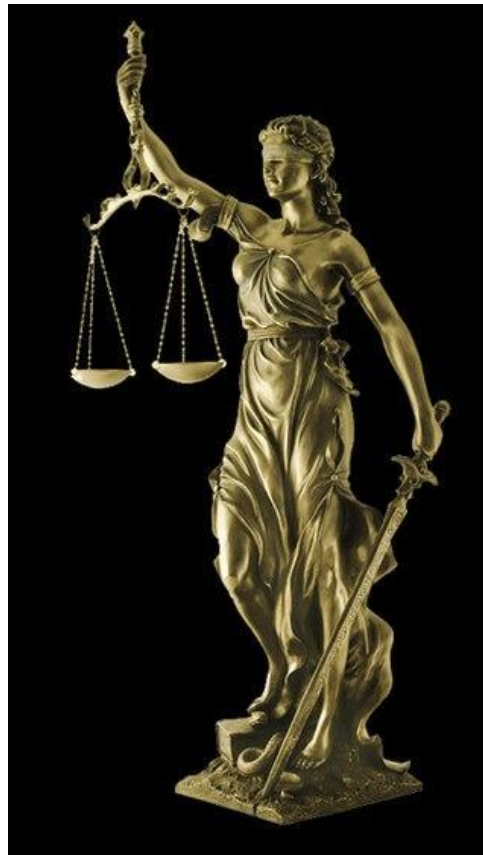


I'd like to welcome you all
to this Law course.



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*

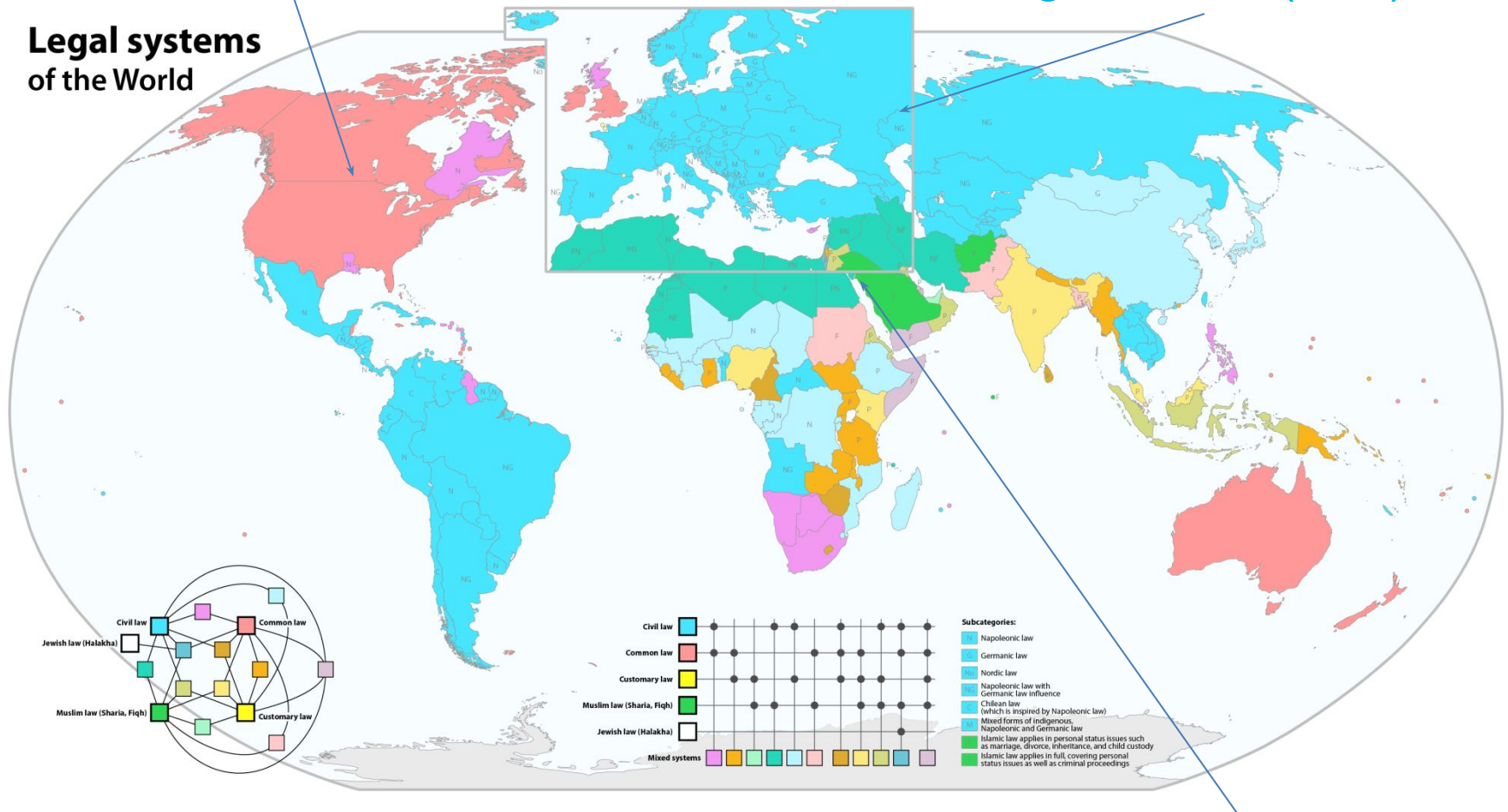
- Constitutional law
- Civil law (consists of Contract law, Property law, Trust law, Tort law)
- Criminal law
- Administrative law
- Labour law
- Family law
- International law

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 made of dirt and leads into the distance, flanked by lush green ferns and other vegetation. Tall, dark trees line the path, and the background is shrouded in a soft, white mist. The overall atmosphere is serene and peaceful.

Thank you and have
a
great day!