



SOURCES AND TYPES OF LAW

1. In our first video, we learned about multiple historical law codes that influenced the development of government and law in the United States. These included the Bible, the Magna Carta, and English Common Law.
2. We also learned about five different sources of law. These sources of law form the foundation of our legal system. Natural law is common to all of us and cannot be taken away and includes life, liberty, and property among our rights. Constitutional law is based on the state and national constitutions as a source. Statutory law is based on laws passed by a legislature. Case law is based on legal precedent and common law is based on past decisions and customs, such as English Common Law.
3. After watching, you will be able to:
 - ◆ Compare civil, criminal, constitutional, and/or military types of law.Be sure to watch video one to understand sources of law! So let's dive into types of law!
4. The U.S. Constitution is a source of law, but also a type of law. Constitutional law defines the powers between the states, between the national government and the states and between the government and the citizens. The Supreme Court deals with questions of constitutional law.
5. Another type of law is civil law, or law that deals with relationships between people (rather than relationships between the people and the government). Have you ever seen the shows on television where the judge is settling a dispute such as rent or whether someone published information that hurt that person's reputation, or standing in the community? That is civil law and we call that civil court. That deals with lawsuits.
6. If you refer to our rule book, the Constitution, you can learn more about civil law in Article I, Section 8, Congress is given the power to: promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries.
7. In simpler terms, the U.S. Constitution secures the right for authors and inventors to claim their writings and discoveries as their own exclusive work for a limited time. It is called a copyright if it is written or art or something similar. It is called a patent if it is an invention. During that period of time, if another person copies and claims the author's or inventor's work as their own, they can be sued in civil court. Recognize this copyright sign? You often see it before movies begin. That is what Article I, Section 8 is talking about.
8. The type of law most people are familiar with is criminal law which deals with crimes and the punishments for those crimes. There is also juvenile law which deals with people under the age of 18 who commit crimes.

9. The last type of law we will review is military law which only applies to people in the military. Congress created a set of criminal laws called the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) for everyone who serves in the military. The military has its own courts to try cases involving people in the military who commit crimes.
10. Let's Check In: Complete the provided chart that compares the types of law.
→ ANSWER
11. Understanding the sources and types of law is an important part of being an active participant in civic life. It all is part of the broader idea of the rule of law. Be sure to check out the other resources on the importance of rule of law covered in this course, and remember that the U.S. Constitution is the Supreme Law of the Land!