Foundations of Law Vocabulary

| civil law | law dealing with the relationships between individuals |
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| common law | unwritten law based on local English customs |
| constitutional law | law derived from the U.S. Constitution and the constitution of the individual states |
| criminal law | laws that deal with the relationships between individuals and society and that maintain order |
| equity | nonmonetary relief granted by courts when money damages are inadequate |
| precedent | example or standard for deciding subsequent cases involving the same or similar facts |
| statute | law passed by legislative bodies rather than by the courts |
| Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) | a compilation of commercial common law principles |