

**PHI 100.03: Concepts of the Person: What is a Person**  
**Instructor:Harvery Cormier**

What is a person? How can we tell? Why does it matter? In this class we'll read and think about philosophical efforts to discover what makes people what we are, what makes us special, and what the answers to these questions entail about how we ought to live. We'll pay special attention to the currently raging political question whether human beings should be regarded by the law as persons from the moment of conception; we will consider historical ideas of what human beings are and do; and we will consider some contemporary thoughts about what different kinds of human beings there are and what, if anything, distinguishes us human persons from non-human animals.