The primary role of cloth face coverings are to reduce the release of infectious particles into the air when someone speaks, coughs, or sneezes, including someone who has COVID-19 but may not show symptoms. Cloth face coverings are not a substitute for washing hands, physical distancing while performing essential activities, and staying home, but they may be helpful when combined with these actions.

Cover Your Mouth and Nose with a Cloth Face Cover When Around Others

Mask should be worn anytime you cannot physically distance and this includes when you are outside. A mask is not a replacement for physical distancing.

You are required to wear a face covering in public settings, including in grocery stores, convenience stores, pharmacies, doctor’s offices, and on public transportation. Wearing a cloth face covering does not eliminate the need to physically distance yourself from others. If you are sick, you should wear a cloth face covering, over your nose and mouth if you must be around other people — even while at home.

While on campus, all faculty, staff, students and visitors must wear a face covering except where a medical condition exists that would prohibit wearing a face covering.

Exceptions to wearing facial coverings include:

- While alone in a private office or residence
- While eating and at least 6 feet away from another person

Masks with exhalation valves or vents should NOT be worn to help prevent the person wearing the mask from spreading COVID-19 to others (source control).
How not to wear a mask!

Do NOT wear a mask

- Around your neck
- On your forehead
- Under your nose
- Only on your nose
- On your chin
- Dangling from one ear
- On your arm

Masks are a critical preventive measure and are most essential in times when social distancing is difficult. If masks cannot be used, make sure to take other measures to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread, including social distancing, frequent hand washing, and cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces. For more information visit: [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html)
A mask is not a substitute for Social Distancing!
Even when you are outdoors, it’s important to wear a mask when you are around other individuals.

In this picture there are 50 people who are positive with COVID-19. Can you tell who they are?