



# Student Life

**E**astern Mennonite University is concerned with the development and welfare of students as individuals and as participants in community. We teach truth in the classroom, examine it in the laboratory, put it on record in the library and demonstrate it in our behavior. We test it in the residence halls, on the playing fields, in the dining hall and in university chapel. Student life at EMU includes many organized services, programs and activities.

## **Living in Community**

The mission of EMU is carried out in a community in which love and honesty characterize our relationship with each other. EMU is a community that has developed a generally agreed upon lifestyle that each member of the administration, faculty, staff and student body accepts when he or she chooses to become a member of the community.

Realizing that a statement of behavioral standards is never exhaustive and that it must be somewhat flexible, we attempt to implement these expectations in the spirit of helpfulness and from a student development perspective. Violations of the standards constitute a failure to be responsible to each other. The spiritual growth and welfare of each member of the community is always our overriding objective.

## **Community Lifestyle Commitment**

*Expectations and Responsibilities for Community Life for faculty, staff and students at Eastern Mennonite University*

### **Preamble**

Eastern Mennonite University is a Christian community in the Anabaptist Mennonite tradition joined together for the purpose of academic study, personal development and spiritual growth. We are committed to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and believe that the scriptures establish the basic principles that should guide our life together. These principles include the responsibility to love God with all our being, love our neighbors as ourselves, seek after righteousness, practice justice, help those in need, forgive others, seek forgiveness and exercise freedom responsibly with loving regard for others.

We acknowledge that it is impossible to create a community with expectations that are totally acceptable to every member. Nevertheless, clearly stated expectations promote orderly community life. Because of the importance of trust in and responsibility to one another, violations of these standards are regarded as a serious breach of integrity within the community.

## Commitment

*As a member of the EMU community, I will strive to practice stewardship of mind, time, abilities and finances. I will pursue opportunities for intellectual and spiritual growth and demonstrate care for my body. I also will exercise social responsibility in my standard of living and use of economic resources. Realizing the destructive character of an unforgiving spirit and harmful discrimination based on prejudice, I will seek to demonstrate unselfish love in my actions, attitudes and relationships. I will be honest and show respect for the rights and property of others.*

*I recognize that some social practices are harmful to me, as well as harmful or offensive to others. Therefore, respecting the values of others and the mission of Eastern Mennonite University, I recognize my responsibility as a member of the community to refrain from sexual relationships outside of marriage, sexual harassment and abuse, pornography, acts of violence, abusive or demeaning language and the use of illegal drugs. Recognizing that EMU supports nonuse of alcohol and tobacco, I will respect and abide by the university policy that prohibits the use of alcohol and tobacco on campus or at university functions and the misuse of alcohol off campus.*

*I pledge myself to carry out this commitment in a spirit of openness and helpfulness through mutual accountability motivated by love.*

*Adopted by the Board of Trustees; March 23, 2001*

For additional information on expectations and responsibilities, see the *Student Handbook* ([www.emu.edu/studentlife](http://www.emu.edu/studentlife)) and the *Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective* ([www.mennolink.org](http://www.mennolink.org)).

## Campus Ministries

Resources for spiritual growth and faith formation are available to students, faculty and staff. Campus pastors offer pastoral care and counseling, spiritual mentoring, discernment retreats and

worship opportunities. They also nurture peer ministry leadership and coordinate special events for discipleship and service. The Pastoral Assistant and Ministry Assistant programs offer opportunities for students to explore and develop leadership skills and ministry gifts. These students facilitate Bible studies and small groups. They are also available for conversation, peer support, and prayer.

University chapel, held Wednesday and Friday mornings, nurtures members of the campus community in faith, hope and love as disciples of Jesus Christ. A community gathering place for worship and forum, university chapel reflects an Anabaptist/Mennonite perspective along side the diverse gifts, traditions and cultures of the broader Christian faith. All offices and departments, other than essential services, are closed during university chapel period in order to allow the community to attend and support chapel. All students, faculty and staff of the university are expected to regularly participate in chapel experiences at Eastern Mennonite University. Students, faculty and staff are expected to attend at least one chapel each week.. More information is available at [www.emu.edu/campusministries](http://www.emu.edu/campusministries).

## Career Services

Career Services offers coaching and resources at all points of career development. Career counseling is available for students looking to choose or change their major. Services are offered through individual appointments, workshops, classroom presentations and online resources. Résumé and interview preparation, job search, and graduate school preparation are among the most requested services. For more information, visit [www.emu.edu/careers](http://www.emu.edu/careers).

## Testing Services

The career services office offers vocational interest and personality inventories.

CLEP and DSST tests that offer students the opportunity to obtain college credit by examination as well as the MAT graduate school entrance exam are also offered through Career Services. Materials and information concerning other national testing programs (GRE, GMAT, LSAT, etc.) may be obtained from Career Services. For more information, visit [www.emu.edu/careers/testing](http://www.emu.edu/careers/testing).

## University Accord

University Accord serves the EMU community in the following ways: Provides forums for dialogue and decision making through mediation, restorative circles, conferencing, facilitation, consultation, and other problem-solving and relationship building processes. UA also offers training in mediation, restorative justice, and “compassionate witnessing and action” where students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to move from a “bystander” role to one that creatively and constructively challenges discrimination and other forms of injustice.

Mediation services and restorative circles are available to persons experiencing conflict with another student, faculty, roommate, ex-date, or friend and can be arranged by contacting the Director of University Accord at ext 4690. Mediation offers a healthy, constructive alternative for conflict resolution, usually requiring only one or two sessions.

## Counseling Services

Counseling services are provided by licensed mental health professionals and graduate students under supervision. Services include individual and group counseling, assessment and referral, mediation services, and educational workshops and seminars. Counseling on campus is confidential unless a student is a safety risk to self or others. Short term services are available and students can access eight free sessions per school year. In addition, the center maintains contact with a net-

work of on- and off-campus counseling professionals who can provide specialized services for the student.

## CoachLink

CoachLink is a program that pairs undergraduate students looking for help with graduate student mentors who help you get rooted at EMU and make choices that are right for you as you adjust to life away from home. When you feel like you need a little extra support, someone to listen without judging, to help you think through a problem, to understand how your moods get in your way, CoachLink is just the answer. CoachLink can be your safety net, an extra layer of attention that keeps you afloat. It provides one-on-one personalized coaching and mentoring to support you in college life, a person who can stay in touch with you as you need them. Email [coachlink@emu.edu](mailto:coachlink@emu.edu) for more information. *CoachLink is made possible by the Austin Frazier Memorial Fund.*

## Health Services

Health Services provides a comprehensive program of health care needs and wellness programming. Health Services is located on the upper level of the University Commons in the Weaver Wellness Suite. Health Services has appointments and walk-in hours for evaluation and treatment of health care issues.

The director is a family nurse practitioner who is qualified to diagnose, order diagnostic testing, and prescribe medications for health problems; perform physicals; and to provide immunizations. Additionally, the college physician is available for consultation during clinic hours.

Currently office visits are available for a minimal fee. Additional services including supplies, medications, dressings and laboratory tests are available. Equipment such as crutches and heating

pads are available for loan if needed. The cost of office visits and other services may be billed to student accounts or paid by cash or check at the time of service. In the future, direct billing to insurance for office visits may be available.

Rockingham Memorial Hospital is a modern, well-equipped facility located six miles from campus and is available to students. Anyone requiring treatment in a larger medical center is referred to the University of Virginia Medical Center in Charlottesville.

A primary goal of Health Services is to promote wellness and to encourage each student to take responsibility for his or her own health. The office sponsors preventative programming which addresses the needs of young adults. Up-to-date travel advice and vaccines are also available at Health Services.

### **International Student Services**

The presence of students from many nations of the world and from various ethnic traditions represented in our own country enriches the campus and helps to bring the global connection into daily campus life. The office of international student services (ISS) provides leadership to a variety of programs and activities that affirm and support the diversity on the EMU campus.

The office of international student services assists F-1 international students with all immigration matters, assisting them in fulfilling the requirements of their visa status. Orientation for new international students is held prior to the beginning of classes each academic year, and excursions are arranged to help familiarize new students with the Harrisonburg area. The Director of the International Student Services also advises the International Student Organization.

Throughout the year the office coordinates intercultural activities that promote awareness of other cultures and heritages

and encourage student and community interactions. For more information see [www.emu.edu/studentlife/iss](http://www.emu.edu/studentlife/iss).

### **Multicultural Services**

The multicultural services office provides educational opportunities and cultural programs that encourage members of the entire campus community to develop a better understanding and appreciation of their own culture, as well as the culture of others.

The EMU community is encouraged to participate in annual campus wide programs sponsored by this office such as Black History Month, Latino Heritage Month and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Week, along with other cultural activities that affirm and celebrate diversity. Student organizations such as the Black Student Union, Latino Student Alliance, the Gospel Choir, Future Leaders of Equality and Diversity, and Alpha and Omega Dancers for Christ are advised by the multicultural services office and serve as a venue for student support and cross - cultural experiences. The multicultural services office also serves as a support to American students of African, Hispanic, Asian, and Native American descent (AHANA). Through the multicultural services office, AHANA students are empowered to succeed academically, socially and spiritually. EMU as a whole reaps the benefits of a positive and diverse community.

### **Residential Life**

Living in the residence hall fosters social, emotional, intellectual and spiritual growth and offers the young adult a transition step toward a more autonomous lifestyle. Here students experience a balance between freedom and support while they develop their own value systems, identities as persons, ways of relating to other persons and life goals. The ideals of respect for others' rights, privileges and property are also emphasized.

A variety of undergraduate housing options are provided for unmarried students including on-campus apartments, suites, intentional communities, single rooms and rooms with roommates. All undergraduate students are required to live on campus. Students who are 21 years old and classified as seniors (earned 90 SH or more) by September 1, are eligible to live off campus. Students who are married or who are living at home with parents are also eligible to live off campus. Students 25 years of age or older are required to live off campus.

A room down payment is required in order to reserve a space in university-owned housing. The housing down payment is due from continuing students prior to room selection procedures each spring. New and readmitted students should refer to "Preparation for Enrollment" section on pages 215-216.

Apartments for students 25 years of age or older, married, and graduate students are available in the Park View community and in university-owned buildings. For information, write to Cheryl Armstrong, manager of apartment rentals.

### **Student Programs**

Access to a wide variety of activities is one of the advantages of a university campus. Students may especially enjoy planned programming such as concerts, the film series, and recreational sports opportunities. Many clubs are open to both under graduate and graduate members, although some are supported solely by undergraduate student activity fees.

### **Film Series**

Sponsored by Campus Activities Council (CAC), the film series runs during the academic semester on Friday and Saturday nights. The series focuses on a variety of current popular movies, along with other topical films sponsored with other groups on campus. Fresh popcorn,

sodas and candy are available for purchase at each film. Films are selected and run by students.

### **Film Admission Fees**

*(Subject to Change)*

EMU Admission: All EMU Students, faculty or staff with ID . . . . . \$1.50  
Children under six . . . . . Free  
Without EMU ID . . . . . \$2.50

### **Recreational Sports**

The leagues currently offered include softball, football, floor hockey, volleyball, dodgeball, basketball and outdoor and indoor soccer. Tournaments are offered in table tennis, basketball, tennis, golf, billiards, wall climbing, sand volleyball, and 3-on-3 basketball.

Interested persons may form teams or register as an individual. Financial responsibility for the treatment of injury incurred while participating in a recreational activity belongs to the participant.

### **Game Room**

The Game Room provides a place to relax and enjoy a game of table tennis, pool, or foosball on evenings and weekends. Soccer balls, volleyballs and basketballs are available for checkout to use in open gym. All are free with an EMU student ID or a Fitness Center ID. The Game Room is located in the University Commons.

### **Fitness Center**

With a student/staff EMU ID, or a purchased community membership, users of the Fitness Center can enjoy a variety of physical activities in a group exercise room, a free-weight room and a cardio fitness room. The Fitness Center machines include: treadmills, bicycles, rowing machines, and ellipticals. Members can also enroll in a variety of weekly classes, including aerobics, yoga,

aikido and dance. The Fitness Center is located in the University Commons.

## **Common Grounds Coffeehouse**

Common Grounds is a student run space for coffee, milkshakes, snacks, and light fare. It is open weekdays, as well as late nights and weekends for socializing, studying, games, concerts, discussion and other events.

## **Commuter Students**

### *Advising and Advocacy*

Commuters have some common concerns as well as some very specialized needs. The Student Program Director has been identified as an advocate for commuters. The office is located in the University Commons student life office, suite A, 540-432-4133.

### *Commuter Lounge and Lockers*

Commuters have their own space in the lounge next to the business office in the Campus Center. There you will find computer work stations, a refrigerator, microwaves, and comfortable furniture. If you need a locker to store your things contact the Student Program Director at 540-432-4133.

## **Spouse Identification Cards**

The university will make ID cards for student spouses at no charge. The cards serve as an annual pass to public events on campus.

Students' children accompanying parents with an ID receive the same privileges. The spouse ID card is available at the Help Desk in the Hartzler Library, 540-432-4231.

## **New Student Orientation**

A key opportunity for enhancing the EMU experience is participation in the orientation program designed to help new students and transfer students make connections and adjust to campus. Crucial campus information is shared and social involvement is promoted by the formation of small groups led by returning students. These groups provide an excellent opportunity to make on-campus contacts and assist students in gaining an informed perspective on the campus system.

New students are encouraged to participate in Student Orientation, Advising and Registration (SOAR) in May or June prior to enrollment for the fall semester. Fall orientation information is sent to new students in August (December for spring semester entrants).