



Student Life

Eastern 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) and the *Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective* (www.mennolink.org).

Campus Ministries

The campus ministries staff are a spiritual resource available to students, faculty and staff for conversation, counseling, support and prayer. The pastors offer pastoral care, call out and nurture

leadership, and coordinate programs for spiritual enrichment and growth including university chapel services, faith formation groups, special speakers and spiritual retreats. 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. Participation in chapel by students, faculty and staff is expected as an expression of the community's interdependence, mutual accountability, and desire for continual upbuilding and growth. More information is available at www.emu.edu/campusministries.

Career Services

Career Services provides coaching and resources at all points of career development – choosing a major, changing a major and using a major. Transition from high school to undergraduate, to graduate school, to work and to church-related service is facilitated through information resources and personal confidential assistance. Services are provided through individual appointments, workshops, classroom presentations and resources in an up-to-date Career Resource Center. CLEP and DSST tests that offer persons the opportunity to obtain college credit by examination are also offered through the Career Services office.

Counseling Services

Counseling services are provided by licensed mental health professionals and graduate students under supervision. Services include individual and group therapy, assessment and referral, mediation services, and educational workshops and seminars. In addition, the center maintains contact with a network of on- and off-campus counseling professionals who can provide specialized services for the student.

Health Services

The Health Center provides a comprehensive program of health services and wellness programming. The center is located on the upper level of the University Commons in the Weaver Wellness Suite.

The center 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 by phone during clinic hours and in person for an hour every week. Office visits are available for a minimal fee. Additional services including supplies, medications, dressings and laboratory tests are available. Equipment such as crutches, ice packs 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 in cash at the time of service. The Health Center has appointments and walk-in hours for evaluation and treatment of health care issues.

Rockingham Memorial Hospital is a modern, well-equipped facility located three 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 the Health Center is to promote wellness and to encourage each student to take responsibility for his or her own health. The center sponsors preventative programming which addresses the needs of young adults and has a resource area with health-related files, books, pamphlets and audio-visu-als. Up-to-date travel advice and vaccines are also available at the Health Center.

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 village into daily contact. The office of international student services provides leadership to a variety of programs and activities that affirm and support the diversity represented on campus.

The office of international student services assists international students with all immigration matters, helping them in fulfilling the requirements of their visa status. Orientation for new international students is held prior to the beginning of classes each fall, and excursions are arranged to help familiarize new arrivals with the Harrisonburg region.

Throughout the year, the office coordinates intercultural activities that promote understanding of other cultures and heritages and encourage student and community interactions. This office also acts as advisor to the International Student Organization.

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 African - American 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) 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 page 200.

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 Greg Becker, 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, performing arts 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 theatrical feature 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
- Students’ children accompanied by parent \$1.50

Children under six Free
Without EMU ID \$2.50

Recreational Sports

The leagues currently offered include football, floor hockey, volleyball, basketball and outdoor and indoor soccer. Tournaments are offered in table tennis, 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, foosball or air hockey on evenings and weekends. Various board and card games are also available for overnight checkout, as well as soccer balls, volleyballs and basketballs for 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.

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 (ext. 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 Learning Resources (ext. 4231) in the Hartzler Library.

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 Spring Orientation 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).