

THE TRUMPET STUDIO AT EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Professor Carter Eggers' answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- **WHY SHOULD I GO TO EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY?**

Even though I have been here for a long time, it is difficult for me to describe the essence of Eastern in just a few words. Basically this is a student-centered institution. Here students have access to faculty. If you feel you need extra help with an issue in a class or if you have a special interest, a project perhaps, you will find faculty members eager to work with you. Eastern is a great place for you to be challenged, encouraged and nurtured. There are special university and departmental opportunities for undergraduate students to gain recognition from research and performance projects and competitions. Music and Dance students excel in these events.

- * **WHAT IS THE TRUMPET STUDIO LIKE?**

As a member of the trumpet studio at Eastern Michigan University you will feel like you are part of a family. Students are very supportive of each other. Older students are particularly helpful to new students as they make the transition from high school to college.

- **WILL I HAVE HALF-HOUR OR HOUR LONG TRUMPET LESSONS?**

All trumpet majors (Music Education, Music Therapy, Music Performance, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts degrees) have one-hour weekly lessons. There also is a one-hour weekly studio class where students play in trumpet ensemble, discuss pedagogical issues and perform for each other.

- **WHAT ENSEMBLES MIGHT I PERFORM IN?**

The EMU Symphony Orchestra, the Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, Jazz Ensemble, Marching Band, Jazz Combos and athletic bands. There are also chamber music ensembles that are primarily formed by students and coached/taught by faculty. The all-campus Concert Band offers opportunities for music majors to gain valuable large ensemble experience performing on secondary instruments. For example, two trumpet majors perform in the Concert Band this year on trombone and saxophone.

- **WHAT COMPETITIONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ME AT EMU?**

There are annual competitions for soloists with the EMU Symphonic Band and Wind Symphony (William Stewart competition), with the EMU Symphony Orchestra (Concerto competition) and for scholarships (Barry Manilow competition). For graduate students there is the Graduate Performance Competition.

EMU's undergraduate Honors Symposium allows students to compete to represent the Department of Music and Dance at the University-wide symposium held each March. Trumpet majors Chad Snider (March, 2012) and Mike Block (March, 2013) are recent Symposium winners.

* **WHAT OTHER PERFORMANCES WILL I DO AS A TRUMPET MAJOR?**

All trumpet students perform at least one solo and in one trumpet ensemble (3 to 7 players) each semester. In two of the last three years the trumpet ensembles toured area high schools at the end of the winter term.

Almost all music education majors perform senior recitals. This is not a curricular requirement but something that is viewed as a culminating event for the music education degree. Some students perform sophomore and junior recitals as well.

Area churches provide many performing opportunities especially for Easter and Christmas services.

* **IS IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO GAIN ACTUAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE WHILE WORKING ON MY DEGREE?**

Yes, some students teach private lessons and also serve as brass techs and drill instructors for high school band camps.

- **That is a lot about us and there is more but how about letting us know about you? I would really enjoy talking trumpet with you and discussing any interests, concerns or questions that you have. Come visit us!!**

If you are thinking about a career in music and studying music in college, I would like to invite you to visit us and have a free lesson. The best time to visit is on a Wednesday because the trumpet studio meets at noon every Wednesday and you can meet everyone in the studio. Then from 1-3 you can sit in with the Wind Symphony. I think you will really enjoy your time here. Just let me know if you are interested and we can schedule your visit. If Wednesday does not fit into your schedule, I will work with you to find a mutually workable time for your lesson.

Sincerely,

**Carter Eggers
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