

Academic & Creative Excellence Festival 2021

Master Schedule and Participants

April 19 – 24

Unless otherwise noted, events are virtual.

Zoom links are available on the calendar tab when logged in to MyEMU.

For a detailed description of each poster and oral presentation, see the list of Participant Abstracts and Project Summaries. Look up projects by the last name of the presenter. (In the case of group projects, the description will be listed under the name of the first student listed.)

On Display All Week

Biology and Chemistry Research Posters

[Visit the online display.](#) Some poster presenters will also be featured in the Student Research Symposium on Wednesday.

Presenters	Project Title
Rebekah Amstutz & Rachael Brenneman	Nitrogen tracking and footprint reduction scenarios at EMU
Hannah Giagnocavo	Effects of Ibuprofen on viability and regeneration in Planaria
Garrett Howard	Visualization of Fluorescence in Isoptera (Termites)
Skylar List, Sarah Grossen, and Wesam Albayati	Examining changes in anti-microbial expression in <i>C. elegans</i> exposed to <i>Elizabethkingia anophelis</i>
Aden Weybright	Terpene Emission in spruce trees
Malade Yigremachew	A sense of belonging: relationships between nursing students and their learning environments
Theodore Yoder	GC-MS Analyses of Protein-Based Tephritid Fruit Fly Lures

Applied Psychology Research Posters

[Visit the online display.](#)

Presenters	Project Title
Anna Cahill	Are introverts sad?
Julie Crouse	Childhood Parental Styles as a Factor in Aggression and Empathy in College Students

Brandon Higgins	Chronic Illness and Mental Health
Lindsey Histan	Preference Assessments: Comparing Different Modes and Methods
Josiah Kanagy	Covid Impact on Mental Health in the Retirement Community
Cora Sawin	Is a Lecture Just a Lecture?: A Comparison of Online and In-Person Learning Environments
Josh Wenger	Motivation and Memory: The Role of Reward on Encoding and Retrieval
Josh Wenger	Working Memory and Reward: A Time-based Model

Peacebuilding & Development Poster

[Visit the online display.](#)

Presenters	Project Title
Molly King	The Use of Negative Peace

Posters from Investigations in SPAN 335: Spanish of the United States

[Visit the online display.](#)

Presenters	Project Title
Rebecca Arias and Carlos Flores	Español de Puerto Rico
Emma Burkhart	The development of inclusive and gender-neutral language in Spanish
Jessamine Domingo and Edith Ortega-Sanchez	The Influence of the Spanish Educational System in Native Speakers
Joshua Gomez and Jesus Trejo	The impact of the Spanish soccer league in Harrisonburg
Olivia Hazelton	Local Resources in Harrisonburg for Spanish-Speaking Immigrants
Hannah Landis and Elizabeth Miller	Recursos educacionales para hispanohablantes: Un análisis de la accesibilidad lingüística en Harrisonburg, VA
Rachel Loyer	Linguistic Phenomenons in Reggaeton Music
Maria Menjivar	Immigrants Living in Harrisonburg
Sara Mumbauer	The History of "English Only" Education and How It Affects the Bilingual Program
Abby Olmstead and Katie Johnson	Bilingual Relationships and Linguistic Growth
Bri Rodriguez	Effects of Machismo in the U.S
Rebecca Yugga	The Migration from Puerto Rico to Philadelphia & New York
Verda Zook	Spanish as an official language of the United States

Senior Art Gallery Exhibition

On display in the Margaret Martin Gehman Gallery during Common Grounds hours.

The exhibit is [also available online](#) beginning April 13

Michaela Lane - *Selective Color Study*

Lane's photographs serve as a hopeful reminder that we are not alone, even in the most difficult of times. Selective color is the process of singling out one color and making everything else black and white. Colors are quite powerful and can evoke a wide range of different emotions. Lane invites viewers to reflect upon all of the emotions her color play may conjure up.

Kirstin Meza - *Numinous*

(See Kirsten's Artist Talk scheduled on Friday, April 23 at 10:00 am)

In her exhibit, *Numinous*, Meza incorporates music and digital displays to help explore the ways in which we experience time and movement during pivotal moments of our lives. It discusses drifting and the forces that guide us, willingly and unwillingly, through times when we must be still. This series is a journey to discover how the fundamental elements (air, earth, fire, and water) ground us in ways that make the movement of life bearable, in moments of both fear and awe.

Jared Oyer - *Aerial Perspective*

In his exhibit, *Aerial Perspective*, Oyer warps, twists, and manipulates aerial photographs, captured by drone, to create unique visual puzzles. Inspired by the work of M.C. Escher, a closer look reveals an imaginative, distorted world of impossibilities.

Monday April 19

Center for Justice and Peacebuilding Presentations, Session 1

2:00-4:00 pm

Presenters	Project Title
Tim Rasmussen	PopViolence: Critical Perspectives on Structural Violence
Emily Powell	Dismantling Binaries through a Color-Wheel Identity Exploration
Conner Suddick	Envisioning Queer Justice: Restorative Visions from LGBTQ+ Youth Voices in Minnesota

Stories from the Bedside:

Exemplars of the Sacred Covenant Model for Nursing

7:00-8:00 pm

This event will feature nursing student stories from the bedside as interpreted through the lens of the Sacred Covenant Model for Nursing.

Moderator: Laura Yoder, PhD, RN, Prelicensure BSN Program Director

Storytellers: **Yonas Ketsela, Erin Shrout, and Madison Wilson**

Tuesday April 20

Seminary MDiv Capstone Presentations

Spirituality and Imagination

11:00-11:45 am

Limited in-person seating in Martin Chapel

Two MDiv seniors will present their creative capstone research.

Presenters	Project Title
Carmen Miller	To Gaze with Love – Visual Arts as Spiritual Formation for Chaplaincy Ministry
MaryBeth Moore	Rediscovering Biblical Imagination through Ignatian Contemplation

Humanities Seminar Research Presentations

11:00 am-12:40 pm

Several students from the Humanities Seminar (Literary Studies, History and Religion), a research capstone course, present a distilled version of their papers.

Presenters	Project Title
James Dunmore	Underground Comix: Thinking Outside of the Panel
Aaron Horst	A Worthwhile Communion
Paige Hurley	Principles in Action: Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and the Indonesian Invasion of East Timor
Allison Shelly	Personal and Political Food: The Jungle, Silent Spring, and World War II
Katherine Szambecki	Bessie Smith to Cardi B: Sexual Liberation and the Music of Black Women

Center for Justice and Peacebuilding Presentations, Session 2

5:00-7:00 pm

Presenters	Project Title
Conner Suddick	Restorative (In)Justice: Examining the Carceral Aspects of Restorative Justice in Education
Yasmine Hawshar	Restorative Justice for Human Rights Violations in Lebanon
Jim Herman and Tilbe Yaglioglu	Peacebuilding Model: Leadership is Influence

Wednesday April 21

Book conversation: exploring *Eight Questions* with Rabbi Goldstein

10:15-11:05 am

Complete information on the [ACE Festival Keynote page](#).

Center for Justice and Peacebuilding Presentations, Session 3

2:00-3:00 pm

Presenters	Project Title
Robin McLamb	Through Photovoice: Exploring Integration of Congolese Refugees in Roanoke, VA

Social Work and Peacebuilding & Development Presentations: *The Intersection of Policy, Theories of Change & Action in Creating Sustainable Change and Peace*

3:00-4:30 pm

This event highlights research and projects of EMU students in the Social Work and Peacebuilding & Development Programs as they focus on policy, theories of change, and action. These presentations and one related poster will demonstrate the need for all three areas to create sustainable change and peace.

Presenters	Project Title
Garrett Cash	Gun Ownership Identity and the Fear-Victimization Paradox
Elizabeth Eby	Mental Health Policy in the Criminal Justice System
Olivia Hazelton	Mental Health Care Reform in Virginia
Julia Powers	Building Community

Biology and Chemistry Student Research Symposium

4:15-5:45 pm

Biology and Chemistry students will present their research. This session will include the following oral research presentations, as well as interaction with poster presenters. (See the poster list above.)

Presenters	Project Title
Isaac Alderfer & Micah Buckwalter	Water quality between forested and agricultural land use zones in the western Shenandoah Valley
Rachael Brennenman & Rebekah Amstutz	Community carbon and nitrogen tracking; quantifying the City of Harrisonburg C and N footprints

Emilio Fajardo	Caenorhabditis elegans as a model for Elizabethkingia anophelis infections
Jacob Myers	Northern saw-whet owl (Aegolius acadicus) migration patterns in Northwestern Virginia

Asian-Pacific Islander Student Alliance

Past, Present, and Future Asian discrimination and hate crimes in light of COVID

5:30-6:30 pm

Limited in-person seating in Common Grounds

The purpose of this workshop is to educate and bring awareness of the severity of these issues and how this has occurred for years before COVID. We are taking a stand and want to make sure our voices are heard.

Keynote Address with Rabbi Niles Goldstein:

Dreams, Drama and Dogma: Spiritual Writing Through the Centuries

7:30-8:30 pm

Limited in-person seating in Lehman Auditorium

Complete information on the [ACE Festival Keynote page](#).

Thursday April 22

Music Department Recital

12:20-1:30 pm

Join the music department for a departmental recital featuring performances by EMU student musicians.

A detailed program will be available by April 20 on the [ACE Festival Schedule page](#).

Teacher Education's Student Teacher Presentations

4:00-5:00 pm

Current student teachers describe their Documentation of Student Learning research projects. Student teachers in 2021-22 are encouraged to attend to get a sneak peek into the "DOSL" assignment.

Presenters	Project Title
Megan Breidigan	Documentation of Student Learning: Narrative Writing Unit in Seventh-Grade English

Emma Pirung	Two Digit by Two Digit Multiplication: Fourth Grade Math Progress with Limited Instruction
Ruth Reimer-Berg	Fracciones y decimales: Teaching math in an online dual language environment
Sarah Ressler	DOSL: Introduction to money
Rachel Sauder	Documentation of Student Learning: Fraction Times Whole Multiplication

Engineering and Computer Science Project Presentations

4:00-5:30 pm

This session will feature project presentations from engineering capstones, design courses, computer science, and the Engineers for a Sustainable World Club.

Presenters	Project Title
Douglas Nester, Ethan Beiler, Aaron Zimmerman, Joshua Schlabach, Noah Sargent	Engineering capstone flight sEMUlator
Jonas Beachy, Andrew Schunn, Laura Troyer	Mars Capsule
Benjamin Bontrager-Singer, Caleb Hostetler, Logan Jones, Conrad Nyce	Electronic Memory Game
Christian Stutzman	Procedural Generation in Game Development
Benjamin Bontrager-Singer, Ethan Spicher, Luke Wheeler, Tessa Waidelich, Laura Troyer, Joel Kornhaus, Noah Swartzentruber, Sean McClary, Caleb Hostetler	Super-Mileage Car

Super-Mileage Car Demonstration

7:00 - 7:30 pm

Location: EMU's outdoor track

Members of EMU's Engineers for a Sustainable World club will demonstrate their Super-Mileage Car, which will be presented in the Engineering Project Presentations zoom event. (See above.)

For the last two years we have been working on the Super-Mileage Car for the Shell Eco-Marathon Competition. Although the competition was cancelled the last two years (due to COVID), we have finally had a chance to finish the vehicle that we have been working so hard on.

Friday April 23

Kirstin Meza – Artist Talk

10:00-11:00 am

Kirstin Meza, photography major, will be discussing her senior project. Meza's project is part of the larger VaCA Senior Gallery Exhibition.

Numinous is a photography show which incorporates music and digital displays to help explore the way we experience time and movement in pivotal moments of our lives. It discusses the ideas about drifting and the forces that guide us, willingly and unwillingly, through life when we must be still. Ultimately, this series is about a journey to discover how the fundamental elements (air, earth, fire, and water) ground us in ways that make the movement of life bearable in moments of both fear and awe.

Writing Studies Thesis Reading

2:30-3:30 pm

Two students will read from their creative writing theses.

Presenters	Project Title
Anna Cahill	"You are the Petals", poetry
Thoreau Zehr	"Pizzas in Pittsburgh", fiction

EMU Authors' Reception

3:30-4:30 pm

Also visit the [virtual authors' display](#).

The 2021 Authors' Reception will include the presentation of this year's Excellence in Teaching Awards, as well as recognition and celebration of the scholarly accomplishments of our published authors. Provost Fred Kniss will present the awards and recognize the authors. In addition, the following authors will share brief personal reflections from their work or their writing/publication journey:

Muhammad Akram, Graduate Student, Conflict Transformation
Benjamin Bergey, Assistant Professor of Music
Kathy Evans, Associate Professor of Education
Doug Graber Neufeld, Professor of Biology

ACE Festival Ice Cream Celebration

4:30-5:00 pm

The ACE Festival offers a treat to celebrate your accomplishments in this most challenging academic year! Stop by for grab-and-go ice cream, served under a tent on the lawn. Look for balloons on the tent near the University Commons building.

Saturday April 24

Senior Jazz Recital featuring *the Bluesberrys*

11:00 am -12:00 pm

Location: Lehman Auditorium front porch

socially distanced seating on the lawn

Saxophonist Silas Clymer and Pianist Ethan Beiler present their senior recital, featuring the debut of the student jazz ensemble *the Bluesberrys*, and with special guests EMU faculty members Kim Souther and David Berry. This recital is sponsored by the Composer Collective and the EMU Music Department.

Honors Capstone Presentations

1:00-3:30 pm

Honors seniors present their capstone projects.

Presenters	Project Title
Reuben Peachey-Stoner	3D printing a muon detector (materials science and prototyping)
Hannah Leaman	Queer theory through my eyes
Rachael Brenneman	Nitrogen footprinting at EMU
Silas Clymer	Exploring the art of filmmaking