Urban Lab: Middle East is an interdisciplinary program that allows students to study the dynamics of urban political, economic and social development firsthand. A collaboration between the Baker Institute Center for the Middle East and the Department of Political Science at Rice University, the program includes parent courses (POLI 362: Comparative Urban Politics and Policy and POLI 355: Government and Politics of the Middle East) that offer a broad overview of urban or regional politics and policies, and a one-credit lab course specific to the research destination.

In the lab, students focus on the history, culture and political economy of either Istanbul or Dubai. Students will conduct a research project related to a contemporary problem facing the city or nation.

During spring break, students travel with their lab instructors to their city for an intensive field research trip that includes visits to think tanks, municipal governments, government ministries, community centers, housing projects, local schools and cultural sites.

**Urban Labs**

POLI/ASIA 349: Urban Lab Istanbul

POLI/ASIA 345: Urban Lab Dubai

Participation in the Urban Lab program is open to students of all years and majors. There are no prerequisites.

**Deadline has been extended through November 15, 2015**

To apply, please visit [bakerinstitute.org/urbanlab-me](http://bakerinstitute.org/urbanlab-me)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Melissa Marschall, professor of political science, at marschal@rice.edu or 713.348.2694.