

APPLICATION FOR POLI 464: Comparative Urban Politics and Policy

With Labs: POLI 349 (Istanbul), POLI 348 (Buenos Aires), POLI 347 (Shanghai)

Field Research Trips Feb. 27/28nd – March 8/9th 2014

Prof. Melissa Marschall
Professor Political Science
Department of Political Science
HRZ 102
713-348-2694 phone
marschal@rice.edu

ENROLLMENT ELIGIBILITY

To be admitted to the Lab course students must be in good academic and judicial standing, demonstrate good communication skills, and maturity and be enrolled in **Poli 464: Comparative Urban Politics and Policy**. Note, students should not take Poli 464 or the lab course as pass/fail.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS AND CHECKLIST

Submit all documents to Prof. Melissa Marschall. Preferred deadline is November 15, 2013. Since space is limited to 12 students in each Lab, you are encouraged to apply earlier.

- Student Information Form (included below)**
- Statement of Purpose** Minimum one page, typed. Statement should express careful consideration for the following: motivation for participating in the Comparative Urban Politics and Policy (Poli 464) research seminar, the Lab of your choice (Istanbul, Buenos Aires, Shanghai), prior academic or travel experience that may have prepared you for the course & lab, research interests and experience, topic related to urban politics and policy of interest to you.
- Study Abroad Participation Agreement (included below)**

STUDENT INFORMATION

Name _____
Last First Middle

Telephone _____ Rice Email _____

College _____ Student ID Number _____

Date of Birth _____ Gender _____ Country of Citizenship _____

Year of Rice Entry _____ Academic Level Abroad _____
Fresh./Soph./Jr./Sr

Major(s) _____ GPA _____ Graduation Year _____

Local Mailing Address: Valid from ____ / ____ / ____ to ____ / ____ / ____

Street Apt./Box Number

City State Zip

Permanent Mailing Address:

Street Apt./Box Number

City State Zip

Emergency Contact

Name _____ Relationship _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Lab Preference (please rank order if you are interested in more than one)

- POLI 349: Urban Lab Istanbul
- POLI 348: Urban Lab Buenos Aires
- POLI 347: Urban Lab Shanghai

*Lab fees for 2013: Istanbul \$2050 (Istanbul, which included additional flight to Ankara) and Buenos Aires \$2500. Fee for Istanbul is expected to be closer to \$1700 in 2014 due to new direct flight on Turkish Airlines that began in April 2013. Airfare to Buenos Aires is typically high (\$1650 in 2013), but can be lower. ***If you are interested in Buenos Aires lab, you should apply as early as possible.*** Shanghai fee TBA, but will not be more than \$2,500. Fees include airfare, all transportation, accommodations, most meals, site visits, and all program related expenses. Students need only pay for visa (reciprocity fee), incidentals and meals on free days/times.

Motivation:

In two sentences or less, please explain why you want to participate and what you hope to get out of the class (seminar & lab).

Language Skills:

Please describe any foreign languages you speak or are learning, including details about fluency.

Additional Questions

Please describe any special considerations for studying abroad that might affect the international experience, such as disabilities accommodations or dietary restrictions.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Have you ever been accused of academic or judicial misconduct? No Yes If yes, please explain:

Release of Student Information

During the course of participation in a study abroad program, there may be times when the *Rice International Programs* believes it is necessary to provide relevant information from educational records to parents, guardians, or to other third parties who are engaged in providing you assistance or services. Depending on the circumstances, information released might include information about you, information about the program in which you are enrolled, or information related to your health or safety. Any disclosures will be made only on an as-needed basis.

- I authorize the release of relevant information if deemed necessary by Rice University.
- I do not authorize the release of relevant information.

Reference

Please provide the name, title and contact information of the Rice faculty member who has agreed to serve as a reference for you.

PARTICIPATING IN STUDY ABROAD

Because foreign study can be quite rigorous and demanding, the staff of *Rice International Programs* believes that only those students who feel they are sufficiently prepared should participate. There are certain risks inherent in international travel and Rice University cannot assume responsibility for your activities. When problems happen overseas, they can be especially difficult to cope with because your usual support network is unavailable to you.

Participants in study abroad programs approved by Rice University must be covered by a sickness and accident insurance policy while abroad. We strongly recommend a policy that is designed specifically to cover students while studying and traveling abroad. This policy should include basic medical coverage, coverage for mental and nervous disorders, accidental death and dismemberment coverage and medical evacuation and repatriation coverage. Check the limits of coverage you have prior to traveling to a foreign country. Some insurance policies only offer limited coverage for medical evacuation and repatriation, if at all. You should consult with your insurance representative in the event you wish to increase these limits. If you plan to travel before the program starts or after it concludes, and your policy does not cover these periods, short-term coverage should be arranged with a private company so that protection will be adequate for the entire period away from home. Additionally, you will want to find out the procedure for making claims from abroad. Typically, the policy-holder is required to pay claims up front and is then reimbursed by the insurance company. Rice shall not provide any additional insurance for you in connection with your participation.

If traveling to rural and underdeveloped areas, you should address in advance any special medical requirements, such as physician or prescription needs. Should you desire the assistance of an English-speaking physician in the country you are visiting, it is your responsibility to learn how to contact one. Rice does not provide any medical services for you in connection with your participation.

Rice University strongly discourages students from owning or operating vehicles while participating in study abroad programs. Traffic congestion and different traffic laws and regulations, civil and criminal, as well as different driving habits, can make driving motor vehicles in foreign countries extremely hazardous. Automobile insurance requirements, or other financial responsibility laws, vary from country to country. Rice University shall not provide any automobile insurance or legal assistance for you in connection with your participation.

Accommodations for disability-based needs that are available in the U.S. might not be available in a study abroad program. If you feel you may require special accommodation from the program provider, *Rice International Programs* will assist you in inquiring whether such accommodations are available.

As a condition of participation, you are required to sign the attached "Participation Agreement."

****THIS DOCUMENT IS FOR YOUR RECORDS ****

STUDY ABROAD PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

INCLUDING ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND RELEASE FROM LIABILITY

I, _____, desire to participate in the _____ Study Abroad Program (the "Program") facilitated through *Rice International Programs* and, in consideration of being allowed to participate in the Program, I hereby acknowledge and agree as follows:

1. I shall be solely responsible and liable for (i) obtaining passports, visas and other personal documentation appropriate for my participation in the Program, (ii) arranging transportation and accommodations to my satisfaction, and (iii) paying all costs and expenses related to my participation in the Program. Rice (i) serves only in a capacity of assisting in making arrangements for transportation, accommodations and other services and products to be provided by others in connection with the Program, and (ii) in no way serves as an agent or representative for these other parties, or accepts any responsibility or liability for their services or products. Such transportation, accommodations and other services and products are subject only to the terms and conditions under which they are provided by such other parties.

2. I am fully informed or otherwise aware of, and fully assume, all risks to person and property in connection with my participation in the Program, including, but not limited to, travel delays, property damage and loss, bodily injuries, sickness, disease and death. I am in sufficient physical and mental health to participate in the Program. I have medical insurance coverage appropriate for my participation in the Program and have provided evidence of such insurance coverage and emergency contact information to Rice. Rice shall not provide any insurance for me in connection with my participation in the Program.

3. I shall comply with all applicable laws of any jurisdiction in which I may travel and all applicable policies of Rice while participating in the Program.

4. I fully and forever RELEASE, WAIVE AND DISCHARGE, and COVENANT NOT TO SUE, Rice (including, but not limited to, its trustees, employees and representatives), from and for any and all demands, claims, actions, suits, damages, losses, liabilities, costs and expenses (including, but not limited to, court costs and attorneys' fees), from any cause whatsoever (including, but not limited to, travel delays, property damage and loss, bodily injuries, sickness, disease and death), directly or indirectly arising in connection with participation in the Program, whether or not foreseeable or contributed to by the negligent acts or omissions of Rice or others.

5. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement, and supersedes any prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, and negotiations regarding this subject matter. This Agreement (i) may not be amended, by course of conduct or otherwise, and (ii) may not be assigned, in whole or in part, except in writing duly executed by me and Rice. This Agreement shall be interpreted and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas, without regard to any conflicts or choice of law principles, and shall be as broad and inclusive as permitted by such laws. If any provision of this Agreement is held unenforceable by a court, such unenforceability shall not affect any other provision, and this Agreement shall be construed as if such provision to the extent of such unenforceability, had not been incorporated herein.

6. I (i) have read and fully understand this Agreement, (ii) intend that this Agreement be legally binding upon and enforceable against me and my family, estate, hers, and legal representatives, (iii) intend that this Agreement benefit Rice, and (iv) confirm that I am at least eighteen years old, fully competent, and entering into this Agreement voluntarily of my own judgment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have duly executed and delivered this Agreement as of _____, 20____

Signature _____ Print Name _____

Medical Insurance Carrier _____ Policy No. _____