BRIDGING THE AMERICAN DIVIDES

USA Lab 15.S02

A course motivated by concern about America’s deep divides and a determination to better understand the issues and uncover solutions

WHAT STUDENTS SAY:

▪ “USA Lab is exactly the kind of opportunity that drew me to Sloan... to make an impact at the intersection of academics and action.”

▪ “To spend two weeks in a rural community, understand it, and provide value is a unique opportunity.”

▪ “I am proud of the fact that MIT Sloan offers such an important opportunity to focus inwards on the divides across the U.S.”

WHAT COMMUNITY LEADERS SAY:

▪ “Students from MIT added both depth and breadth to our understanding of a thorny regional problem: increasing access to affordable, quality childcare. The students provided a formula that would positively impact families.”

▪ “Students conducted critical analysis necessary for us to launch the Wisconsin Shared Stewardship Equities Index Fund.”

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR THIS YEAR’S USA LAB PROJECTS

IN THIS COURSE, YOU WILL:

✓ WORK ON PROJECTS WITH DYNAMIC LOCAL LEADERS WHO ARE SHAPING THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

✓ TRAVEL TO DISCOVER LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR INNOVATION

✓ EXPLORE WORK, community, culture and the potential for resilience

✓ DEEPEN YOUR UNDERSTANDING, UNCOVER SOLUTIONS TO AMERICA’S DIVIDES

15.S02 USA Lab
Bridging the American Divides: Work, Community & Culture
An MIT Sloan Action Learning Lab
Offered Spring 2019,
Mondays, 4-7 p.m.
Faculty:
Barbara Dyer
Leigh Hafrey
Christine Kelly
Thomas Kochan
WHERE WILL YOU MAKE AN IMPACT?

In USA Lab This Spring, You Could:

- Analyze food manufacturing opportunities in rural Maine
- Create a tool to track workforce development progress in northern Kentucky
- Explore worker-owned business models for the seafood industry in Oregon
- Increase the visibility of African-American cultural destinations in South Carolina
- Craft strategies for removing barriers to workforce participation in rural Michigan or Minnesota
- Conduct an analysis of how to improve access to mortgage financing in Appalachia
- Recommend strategies for attracting skilled young workers to northern New Hampshire
- Study how to build career pipelines for low-income and minority residents in Iowa
- Research the challenges adult learners in Massachusetts face as they seek to gain new skills
- Develop a business plan for downtown redevelopment in West Virginia
- Evaluate housing availability and demand for energy-efficient housing in northern New Hampshire
- Or assess career opportunities and pathways for residents to find good jobs in Michigan

Bridging the American Divides (USA Lab) counts toward the MIT Sustainability Certificate.