This course examines the world of political regimes and regime transitions. Why are some countries democracies and others dictatorships? Why does democracy sometimes break down? Why so some dictatorships eventually democratize? We will explore these questions through a diverse range of cases. We will learn about cases from Latin America and beyond, including the world’s biggest democracy (India) and the world’s biggest authoritarian regime (China).

**S01 1:30 pm - 4:20 pm W | 🌐 Learn more about James and LAS 422**

**Meet the Instructor**

James Loxton ‘06 (Ph.D., Harvard University) is a senior lecturer in comparative politics at the University of Sydney. His research focuses on authoritarian regimes, democratization, and political parties. While at Princeton, Loxton will be working on a new research project on “hereditary democracy,” or the phenomenon whereby children, spouses, and other close family members of politicians are themselves elected to high office.