

JAMES LOXTON

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Harvard University (Government, 2014)

A.M. Harvard University (Government, 2009)

A.B. Princeton University (Politics, 2006, *summa cum laude*)

EMPLOYMENT

University of Sydney
Senior Lecturer in Comparative Politics (2021-); Lecturer in Comparative Politics (2015-2020)

OTHER APPOINTMENTS

Princeton University
Visiting Research Scholar, Program in Latin American Studies (2023)

Oxford University
Visiting Research Associate, Latin American Centre (2019, 2022)
Associate Member, Nuffield College (2019, 2022)

University of Notre Dame
Visiting Fellow, Kellogg Institute for International Studies (2014-2015)

BOOKS

Under contract. *Latin American Politics: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press.

2024. *Authoritarianism: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press.

2021. *Conservative Party-Building in Latin America: Authoritarian Inheritance and Counterrevolutionary Struggle*. New York: Oxford University Press.
* Winner of the Canadian Political Science Association's 2022 Prize in Comparative Politics
* Reviewed in *Perspectives on Politics*, *Party Politics*, *Latin American Politics & Society*, *Journal of Latin American Studies*, *LARR*, and *Journal of Development Studies*

EDITED BOOKS

2018. *Life after Dictatorship: Authoritarian Successor Parties Worldwide*. New York: Cambridge University Press (with Scott Mainwaring).

2016. *Challenges of Party-Building in Latin America*. New York: Cambridge University Press (with Steven Levitsky, Brandon Van Dyck, and Jorge I. Domínguez).

SPECIAL ISSUE

2021. “Understanding Authoritarian Diasporas: Causes and Consequences of Authoritarian Elite Dispersion in New Democracies.” *Democratization*. 28(3) (with Timothy J. Power).

JOURNAL ARTICLES

2024. “Hereditary Democracy.” *Journal of Democracy*. 35(3): 146-159.
2022. “El misterio del excepcionalismo panameño.” *Gobierno y Sociedad*. 1(2): 133-158.
2022. “The Puzzle of Panamanian Exceptionalism.” *Journal of Democracy*. 33(1): 85-99.
2021. “Authoritarian Vestiges in Democracies.” *Journal of Democracy*. 32(2): 143-156.
2021. “Introducing Authoritarian Diasporas: Causes and Consequences of Authoritarian Elite Dispersion” (with Timothy J. Power). *Democratization*. 28(3): 465-483.
2015. “Authoritarian Successor Parties.” *Journal of Democracy*. 26(3): 157-170.
2013. “Populism and Competitive Authoritarianism in the Andes” (with Steven Levitsky). *Democratization*. 20(1): 107-136.

BOOK CHAPTERS

2024. “Authoritarian Legacies.” In Anne-Margret Wolf, ed. *The Oxford Handbook of Authoritarian Politics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
2018. “Introduction: Authoritarian Successor Parties Worldwide.” In James Loxton and Scott Mainwaring, eds. *Life after Dictatorship: Authoritarian Successor Parties Worldwide*. New York: Cambridge University Press. 1-49. [Single-authored; ~20,000 words]
2018. “Conclusion: Life after Dictatorship.” In James Loxton and Scott Mainwaring, eds. *Life after Dictatorship: Authoritarian Successor Parties Worldwide*. New York: Cambridge University Press. 336-359. [Single-authored; ~12,000 words]
2018. “Personalistic Authoritarian Successor Parties in Latin America” (with Steven Levitsky). In James Loxton and Scott Mainwaring, eds. *Life after Dictatorship: Authoritarian Successor Parties Worldwide*. New York: Cambridge University Press. 113-141.
2018. “Populism and Competitive Authoritarianism in Latin America” (with Steven Levitsky). In Carlos de la Torre, ed. *Routledge Handbook of Global Populism*. New York: Taylor & Francis. 334-350.

2016. "Introduction: Challenges of Party-Building in Latin America" (with Steven Levitsky and Brandon Van Dyck). In Steven Levitsky, James Loxton, Brandon Van Dyck, and Jorge I. Domínguez, eds. *Challenges of Party-Building in Latin America*. New York: Cambridge University Press. 1-49.
2016. "Authoritarian Successor Parties and the New Right in Latin America." In Steven Levitsky, James Loxton, Brandon Van Dyck, and Jorge I. Domínguez, eds. *Challenges of Party-Building in Latin America*. New York: Cambridge University Press. 245-272.
2014. "The Authoritarian Roots of New Right Party Success in Latin America." In Juan Pablo Luna and Cristóbal Rovira Kaltwasser, eds. *The Resilience of the Latin American Right*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press. 117-140.
2014. "Populism and Competitive Authoritarianism in the Andes" (with Steven Levitsky). In Aurel Croissant, Steffen Kailitz, Patrick Koellner, and Stefan Wurster, eds. *Comparing Autocracies in the Early Twenty-first Century. Volume 1: Unpacking Autocracies—Explaining Similarity and Difference*. New York: Routledge. 185-214.
2012. "Populism and Competitive Authoritarianism: The Case of Fujimori's Peru" (with Steven Levitsky). In Cas Mudde and Cristóbal Rovira Kaltwasser, eds. *Populism in Europe and the Americas: Threat or Corrective to Democracy?* New York: Cambridge University Press. 160-181.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Forthcoming. "Defining Authoritarianism." In Stephen G. F. Hall and Thomas Ambrosio, *Encyclopedia of Authoritarianism*. Edward Elgar Publishing.
2025. "Why the U.S. Should Not Take Back the Panama Canal" (with Javier Corrales). *Americas Quarterly*. 23 January 2025.
 2022. Review of Carew Boulding and Claudio A. Holzner, *Voice and Inequality: Poverty and Political Participation in Latin American Democracies*, in *Perspectives on Politics*. 20(2): 669-670.
 2022. "The Philippines elected a dictator's son. Why are dynasties popular?" Monkey Cage, *Washington Post*, 26 May 2022.
 2022. "Like father, like son? The return of the Marcos dynasty is a sadly common path for new democracies," *Sydney Morning Herald*, 9 May 2022.
 2022. "Panama's Success Is Defying Political Science," *Foreign Policy*, 28 January 2022.
 2021. "Trump made it easy to teach my students," *Sydney Morning Herald*, 21 January 2021.
 2018. "Goodbye Castros, Hello Communist Party" (with Javier Corrales), *New York Times*, 26 February 2018.

2017. “Venezuelans are still demonstrating. What happens next for the dictatorship of President Nicolás Maduro?” (with Javier Corrales), Monkey Cage, *Washington Post*, 20 April 2017.
2016. “Peru rejected Keiko Fujimori, but most new democracies vote authoritarian parties back into office. Here’s why,” Monkey Cage, *Washington Post*, 16 June 2016.
2016. “Authoritarian Successor Parties Worldwide: A Framework for Analysis.” Kellogg Working Paper #411 (June 2016). Kellogg Institute for International Studies. University of Notre Dame.

INVITED TALKS

- “The Puzzle of Panamanian Exceptionalism,” Sydney University Research Community for Latin America (SURCLA), University of Sydney, 2 November 2023.
- “The Puzzle of Panamanian Exceptionalism,” David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University, 28 April 2023.
- “The Puzzle of Panamanian Exceptionalism,” Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame, 21 February 2023.
- “The Puzzle of Panamanian Exceptionalism,” Program in Latin American Studies, Princeton University, 15 February 2023.
- “The Puzzle of Panamanian Exceptionalism,” Department of Government, Cornell University, 10 February 2023.
- “The Puzzle of Panamanian Exceptionalism,” Latin American Centre, Oxford University, 1 November 2022.
- “Authoritarian Vestiges in Democracies,” Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon, 9 September 2022.
- “El misterio del excepcionalismo panameño,” Instituto de Estudios Democráticos, Tribunal Electoral de Panamá, 8 June 2022.
- “The Puzzle of Panamanian Exceptionalism,” United States Studies Centre, University of Sydney, 7 June 2022.
- “The Puzzle of Panamanian Exceptionalism,” School of Politics and International Relations, Australian National University (ANU), 10 March 2022.
- “El PRD en perspectiva comparada,” for panel Partidos y sistema de partidos en Panamá, Instituto de Estudios Democráticos, Tribunal Electoral de Panamá, 27 October 2021.
- “Authoritarian Successor Parties and Transitional Justice,” Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon, 20 January 2020.

“Life after Dictatorship: Authoritarian Successor Parties in Latin America and Beyond,” Latin American Centre, Oxford University, 10 May 2019.

“Life after Dictatorship: Authoritarian Successor Parties in Latin America and Beyond,” Institute of the Americas, University College London, 27 March 2019.

“Life after Dictatorship: Authoritarian Successor Parties Worldwide,” Sydney Democracy Network, University of Sydney, 10 October 2018.

“Life after Dictatorship: Authoritarian Successor Parties Worldwide,” Electoral Integrity Project (EIP), University of Sydney, 11 April 2018.

“Life after Dictatorship: Authoritarian Successor Parties Worldwide,” Department of Political Science, University of Toronto, 6 September 2017.

“Life after Dictatorship: Authoritarian Successor Parties Worldwide,” School of Politics and International Relations, Australian National University (ANU), 3 November 2016.

“Authoritarian Successor Parties in Latin America (and Beyond),” Sydney University Research Community for Latin America (SURCLA), University of Sydney, 19 April 2016.

“Authoritarian Successor Parties Worldwide: Why Do Parties like Mexico’s PRI, Taiwan’s KMT, and Ghana’s NDC Win Elections, and What Does It Mean for Democracy?” David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies (DRCLAS), Harvard University, 17 February 2015.

CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS ORGANIZED

“Authoritarian Diasporas: Causes and Consequences of Authoritarian Elite Dispersion.” Day-long workshop organized (with Timothy J. Power) at Oxford University, 25 October 2019.

“Life after Dictatorship: Authoritarian Successor Parties Worldwide.” Two-day conference organized (with Scott Mainwaring) at the Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame, April 2015.

“Challenges of Party-Building in Latin America.” Two-day conference organized (with Steven Levitsky, Brandon Van Dyck, and Jorge I. Domínguez) at Harvard University, November 2012.

PANELS ORGANIZED

“The Politics of Authoritarianism.” Panel organized for the International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), San Francisco, CA, May 2025.

“Conservative Party-Building in Latin America: Authoritarian Inheritance and Counterrevolutionary Struggle.” Panel organized for the International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Vancouver, Canada, May 2021.

“Authoritarian Diasporas: Causes and Effects of Authoritarian Elite Dispersion.” Panel organized for the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), San Francisco, CA, September 2020.

“Life after Dictatorship: Authoritarian Successor Parties Worldwide.” Panel organized for the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Boston, MA, August 2018.

“Roundtable: Challenges of Party-Building in Latin America.” Panel organized for the XXXV International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Lima, Peru, April 2017.

“Bringing Panama Back In.” Panel organized for the XXXV International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Lima, Peru, May 2017.

“Popular Support for Authoritarian Regimes.” Panel organized for the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Philadelphia, PA, September 2016.

“Authoritarian Successor Parties and Democracy.” Panel organized for the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), San Francisco, CA, September 2015.

“Authoritarian Successor Parties in Latin America.” Panel organized for the XXXIII International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), San Juan, Puerto Rico, May 2015.

“Challenges of Party-Building in Latin America.” Panel organized for the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Washington, D.C., August 2014.

“Challenges of Party-Building in Latin America.” Panel organized for the XXXII International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Chicago, IL, May 2014.

“Bringing the Right Back In: The Politics of Conservative Strength amidst Latin America’s Turn to the Left.” Panel organized for the XXXI International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Washington, D.C., May 2013.

PAPERS PRESENTED

“Panama’s Democracy: Transition by Invasion, Consolidation by Negotiation.” Paper to be presented at the workshop “Central America’s Democratic Crisis: Drivers of Backsliding and Sources of Resilience,” Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, 2-3 May 2025.

“Hereditary Democracy in Africa and Latin America.” Paper presented at the panel “Advancing Comparative Area Studies: Knowledge Production, Institutional Implications, and Comparisons of Africa and Latin America,” LASA/Africa Continental Congress, Accra, Ghana, 16 November 2023.

“Conservative Party-Building in Latin America: Authoritarian Inheritance and Counterrevolutionary Struggle.” Book manuscript chapter presented at the panel “Parties and Conservative Interest Groups in Latin America,” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Organization (APSA), Boston, MA, August 2018.

“Scapegoating to Thrive: Panama’s Authoritarian Successor Party in Comparative Perspective.” Paper presented at the panel “Bringing Panama Back In,” XXXV International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Lima, Peru, May 2017.

“Authoritarian Successor Parties Worldwide: A Framework for Analysis.” Paper presented at the panel “Authoritarian Politics in the Modern World,” Australian Political Studies Association (APSA) Conference, Sydney, NSW, September 2016.

“Authoritarian Successor Parties Worldwide: A Framework for Analysis.” Paper presented at the panel “Popular Support for Authoritarian Regimes,” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Philadelphia, PA, September 2016.

“Authoritarian Successor Parties: A Framework for Analysis.” Paper presented at the panel “Authoritarian Successor Parties in Latin America,” XXXIII International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), San Juan, Puerto Rico, May 2015.

“Authoritarian Successor Parties: A Framework for Analysis.” Paper presented at the conference “Life after Dictatorship: Authoritarian Successor Parties Worldwide,” Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame, April 2015.

“Personalistic Authoritarian Successor Parties in Latin America” (with Steven Levitsky). Paper presented at the conference “Life after Dictatorship: Authoritarian Successor Parties Worldwide,” Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame, April 2015.

“Authoritarian Successor Parties and the Right in Latin America.” Paper presented at the panel “Challenges of Party-Building in Latin America,” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Washington, D.C., August 2014.

“The Authoritarian Roots of New Right Party Success in Latin America.” Paper presented at the panel “Bringing the Right Back In: The Politics of Conservative Strength amidst Latin America’s Turn to the Left,” XXXI International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Washington, D.C., May 2013.

“The Non-Electoral (and Non-Democratic) Roots of Electorally Successful Right-Wing Parties in Latin America.” Paper presented at the conference “Challenges of Party-Building in Latin America,” Harvard University, November 2012.

“Populism and Competitive Authoritarianism in Latin America.” Paper presented at the panel “The Consolidation and Deconsolidation of Democracy in Latin America,” XXX International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), San Francisco, May 2012.

“Populism and Competitive Authoritarianism: The Case of Fujimori’s Peru.” Paper presented at the conference “Populism in Europe and the Americas: Threat or Corrective to Democracy?” Social Science Research Center (WZB), Berlin, Germany, August 2010.

TEACHING

Undergraduate

Democracy and Dictatorship (2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024)

Politics Honours Seminar (2021, 2022)

Latin American Politics (2016, 2017, 2018, 2020, 2023, 2025)

Introduction to Comparative Politics (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019)

Postgraduate

Political Regimes and Regime Transitions (2024)

Challenges of Democratic Politics (2024)

Foundations of Comparative Politics (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019)

Supervising

Honours thesis supervisor (2018, 2020, 2024)

Capstone essay supervisor (2017, 2019, 2021, 2024, 2025)

SERVICE

Dalyell Academic Mentor (2025-)

LASA Bryce Wood Book Award Committee (2025-)

LASA Track Chair – Democratization and Political Process (2024-)

SSPS HDR Coordinator – Admissions and First Year (2024-)

GIR Honours Coordinator (2024-)

Chair of GIR Comparative and Australian Politics Sub-Committee (2024)

GIR Undergraduate Coordinator (2019-2021)

GIR Liaison to University of Sydney Library Committee (2015-2018)

AWARDS AND HONORS

Canadian Political Science Association's Prize in Comparative Politics (2022)

- Awarded once every two years to the best book in the field of comparative politics

"5 Democracy Books from 2021 You Must Read," *Democracy Paradox* podcast, December 2021

John G. Buchanan Prize in Politics, Princeton University (2006)

- Awarded to the top student in the Department of Politics

John H. Coatsworth Latin American History Fellowship, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University (\$25,000) (2012-2013)

Samuel P. Huntington Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, Weatherhead Center, Harvard University (2012)

Pedro Pick NOMOS Graduate Student Research Fellowship, Weatherhead Center, Harvard University (2011)

Term-Time and Summer Research Grants, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University (2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013)

Princeton in Latin America Fellowship, Princeton University (2006-2007)

IN THE MEDIA

Live radio interview with Richard Glover of *ABC Sydney Drive* about my research on hereditary democracy, 8 August 2024.

“Global democracy undermined by political ‘nepo babies’, Sydney University research finds.” *ABC News* article about my research, 31 August 2024.

“Hereditary democracy and the danger of political nepo-babies.” Interview about my research with Andy Park for *ABC Radio National*, 4 September 2024.

“The global rise of political ‘nepo babies’: Who is Jack Schlossberg, the heir to the Kennedy dynasty?” *ABC News* article drawing on my research on hereditary democracy, 18 October 2024.

“James Loxton Explains Why Authoritarian Successor Parties Succeed in Democracies.” Interview about my 2021 monograph for *Democracy Paradox* podcast, 11 May 2021.

PAST AFFILIATIONS

Latin American Studies Program, University of Toronto, Visiting Scholar (Summer 2015)

Asian Institute, Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto, Visiting Scholar (2013-2014)

Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR), Maxwell School, Syracuse University, Attendee (June 2013)

Weatherhead Center, Harvard University, Graduate Student Affiliate (2011-2013)

Departamento de Ciencia Política y Estudios Internacionales, Universidad Torcuato Di Tella (Buenos Aires, Argentina), Visiting Scholar (Spring 2012)

Instituto de Ciencia Política, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (Santiago, Chile), Visiting Scholar (Fall 2011)

David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University, Graduate Student Associate (2010-2011)

Mahindra United World College of India (Pune, Maharashtra, India), Student (1999-2001)

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Human Rights Watch, Americas Division, Santiago de Chile, Fellow (2006-2007)

Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO), Santiago de Chile, Fellow (2006-2007)

Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C., Intern (Summer 2005)

LANGUAGES

Spanish (fluent), Portuguese (reading)