What does it mean for the future of the planet when one of the world’s most durable authoritarian governance systems pursues “ecological civilization”? China exemplifies a model of state-led environmentalism that concentrates decisive political, economic, and epistemic power under centralized leadership. Professor Shapiro, who has worked in China since the mid-1970s, will introduce the concrete mechanisms of China’s coercive environmentalism to show how “going green” helps the state to further other agendas such as citizen surveillance and geopolitical influence.

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