



University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

# Center for Chinese Studies

## Fall 2021 Seminars on China

*The public is cordially invited to attend. Free admission.*

**Wednesday October 20, 12 noon – 1:30 pm, via Zoom**

**Register in advance for this webinar:**

[https://hawaii.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_C-vcl24rTFKgkVpLdXCYIA](https://hawaii.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_C-vcl24rTFKgkVpLdXCYIA)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Faculty Presentation

co-sponsored with the UH Department of Asian Studies

Understanding China Series Event 3:

## “China’s Electric Vehicle Market & the Role of Tesla”



In late April, 2021, President Joe Biden took a virtual tour of an electric bus manufacturer based in South Carolina. At the event, Biden stated that US manufacturers should be “the single most significant suppliers of electric buses and vehicles in the world.” But he admitted that “right now, we’re running way behind China.” How did China become a global leader in the electric vehicle (EV) market, and what has been the US response? In exploring these issues, this talk first briefly explores some of the Chinese government incentives that have spurred the rapid growth of EV sales in recent years. It then describes the range of electric vehicle manufacturers based in China, their ownership composition, and the balance between the public and private sectors in vehicle manufacturing. Finally, it discusses a major American player, Tesla, and the role a leading US company can play to help level the playing field of electric car sales within China’s own borders.

**Eric Harwit** is a Professor in the Asian Studies department at the University of Hawai'i. He has M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in political science from UC Berkeley and a diploma in business Chinese studies from China’s University of International Business and Economics. He has lived in Beijing several years, and speaks fluent Chinese. He has published two single-authored books, and more than two dozen academic articles. His most recent book is *China’s Telecommunications Revolution* (Oxford University Press, 2008), and his current research focuses on China’s mobile social media. He has appeared on CNBC and been interviewed by the BBC, CNN, MSNBC, NPR, *Time* magazine and other national and international media.

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