“Black Dragons” uses a performance studies lens to examine the history of racial and gendered performance within Asian martial arts from the mid-twentieth century to the present day. This talk focuses specifically on the martial arts program that the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense operated at the Oakland Community School/Oakland Community Learning Center (OCS/OCLC) from 1974 to 1978. Employing a theory of racial kinesthesia which articulates the process through which minoritarian groups borrow and exchange from each other, this research is concerned with how the performance of martial arts practice served to construct the individual character of practitioners involved in the OCS/OCLC as well as a way of educating, organizing, and mobilizing the broader community of Oakland around the Party’s mission as laid out in their ten-point platform. Hence, martial arts were a way of rehearsing a form of transcultural Afro Asian masculinity that was in conversation with anti-colonial movements in Asia and also enabled practitioners to reimagine their own subjectivity in the midst of a de-industrialized landscape.