MARTIAL ARTS IN AMERICA
ACS 3000 101W 40066

Martial arts in the US encompass self defense, physical fitness, amateur competition, and a multi-billion dollar spectator sports industry. Interest in martial arts cuts across sex, race, and socio-economic status. How did the US become home to a wide diversity of martial arts, ranging from wrestling and boxing to kung fu and Brazilian Ju-jitsu? Why do so many Americans gravitate toward martial arts as practitioners, sports enthusiasts, and fans? To answer these and other questions, this course explores the history and development of American martial arts from the colonial era to the 21st century. Topics include:

- Martial practices from European traditions: boxing, wrestling, dueling, fencing
- Asian martial arts, including jujitsu, judo, karate, kung fu, muay thai and others
- Women’s martial arts in America
- Race and martial arts
- Martial arts and self-defense
- Combat sports: boxing, karate, Olympic tae kwon do and judo, MMA

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