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## UCT historian gets jump on Heritage Day by calling for global perspective on Cape's history

**"The Global Cape: Breaking the boundaries of the early Cape Colony"**  
**Inaugural lecture by Professor Nigel Worden, on Wednesday, 21 September 2011, at 17h30, in LT1, Kramer Law Building, Middle Campus**

We need to understand the Cape not only as part of the South African nation but also in relation to its historical links to Asia, other parts of Africa and the Indian Ocean world, according to Professor Nigel Worden of the University of Cape Town. This will be the argument he will present in his inaugural lecture on Wednesday, 21 September 2011, at 17h30, in LT1, Kramer Law Building, Middle Campus. This is Professor Worden's inaugural into the King George V Chair of History, to which he was appointed in 2009.

Professor Worden first encountered African history as an undergraduate at Cambridge. He came to South Africa in 1979 to spend six months in the Cape archives researching for his doctorate – and has been here ever since, apart from a brief period teaching at the University of Edinburgh. His earliest research focused on slavery in the Dutch Cape Colony and this led to a growing interest in Indian Ocean and Southeast Asian history. In the 1990s he co-authored a pioneering two-volume social history of Cape Town. More recently he has explored the ways sailors, artisans and slaves from around the world created new lives for themselves in the early colonial settlement. His current project explores concepts of honour and shame in the early modern Indian Ocean world.

Professor Worden previously trained as an actor, which might explain why he is a passionate lecturer and teacher and one of the earliest winners of a UCT Distinguished Teacher award. He also has degrees in linguistics and in art history. He has published a widely used general history of South Africa, has appeared in several recent television

documentaries and is a member of the triumvirate that wrote the influential *In Search of History* senior school textbook series. He became a full professor in 1997 and is currently head of the Historical Studies Department.

***ENDS***

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