

# World Exploration Themes & Quests



Presented by:  
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# Course Objectives & Format

## Objectives

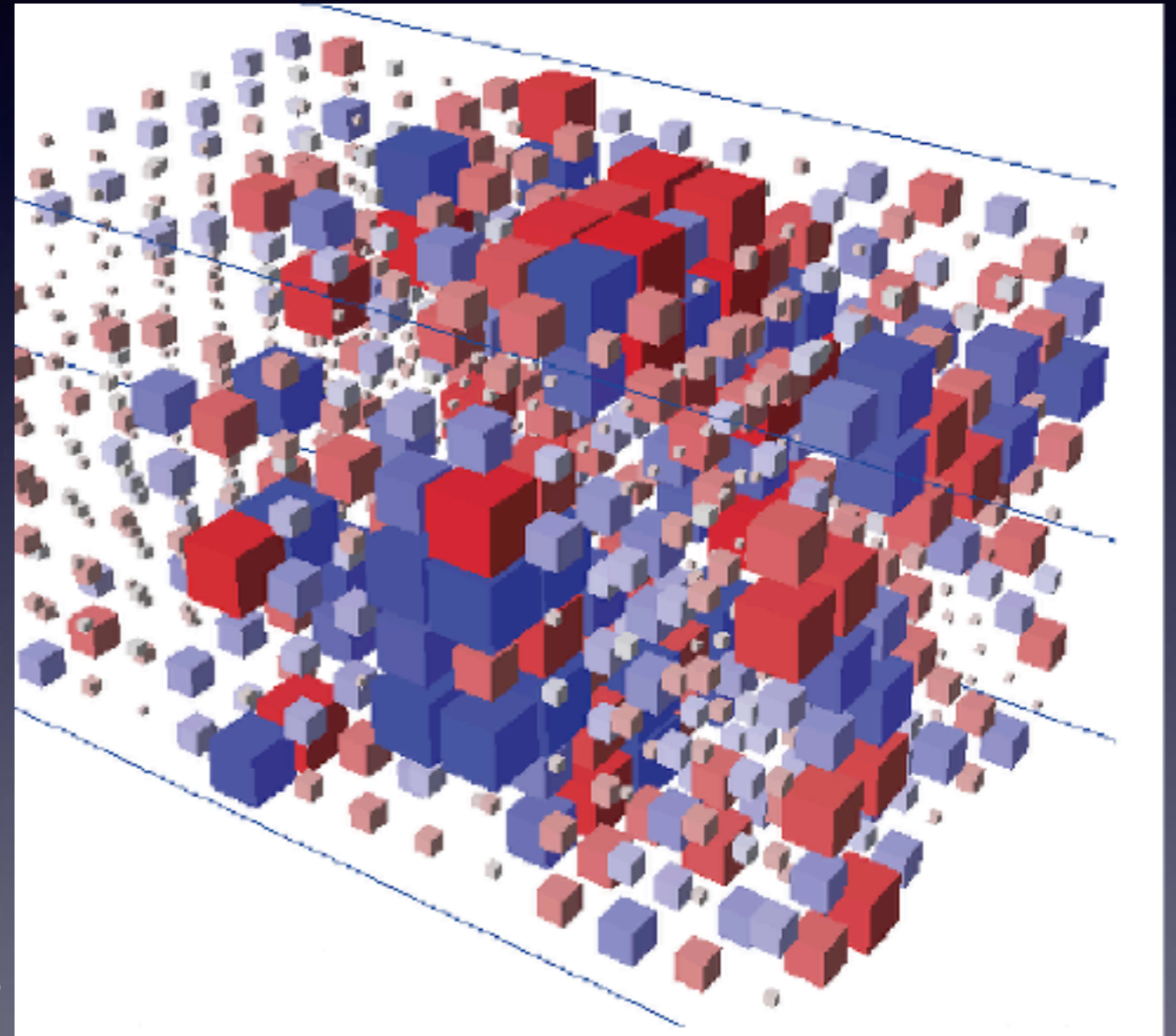
- Present series of self-contained talks on wide range of topics related to exploration
- Apply a collaborative delivery model, with multiple presenters
- Encourage attendee participation, especially comments of course development

## Format

- presentation for max 40mins, followed by discussion.

# The Quests & Themes Matrix

- **Quests** are journeys & voyages of discovery, which:
  - have defined objective(s)
  - are time & place specific
- **Themes** are topics that:
  - recur in both time & space
  - vary depending on circumstances



# Examples of Quests



# List of quests is massive

The Silk Road

Exploring The Orient

The Pacific Ocean

C19<sup>th</sup> & C20<sup>th</sup> Explorers Of Turkestan

The Interior Of Africa

Arab Exploration Of The Indian Coast

The Discovery Of Australia

Crossing The Sahara

The Ming Dynasty Voyages

The Deep Oceans

Putting A Man On The Moon

... And Many Others

# Examples of Themes

"Who Got To *There* First?" (America, Australia)

Navigation & Cartography

The Role Of The Church

Women Explorers

"What Do They Think Of Us?" The Local People's Perception Of New Arrivals

How Was New Knowledge Received & Assimilated?

Biological Exchanges Between Continents

The Art Of Newly Discovered Lands

# Starting the Journey



Why exploration is such an interesting subject:

- how events shaped world development
- tales of human endeavour
- cast of extraordinary characters
- imagining the challenges of the unknown
- some important unanswered questions

# Motives for Exploration

- Trade
- Search for riches
- New converts to the faith
- Acquisition of empire
- Search for scientific knowledge



# Ongoing controversies

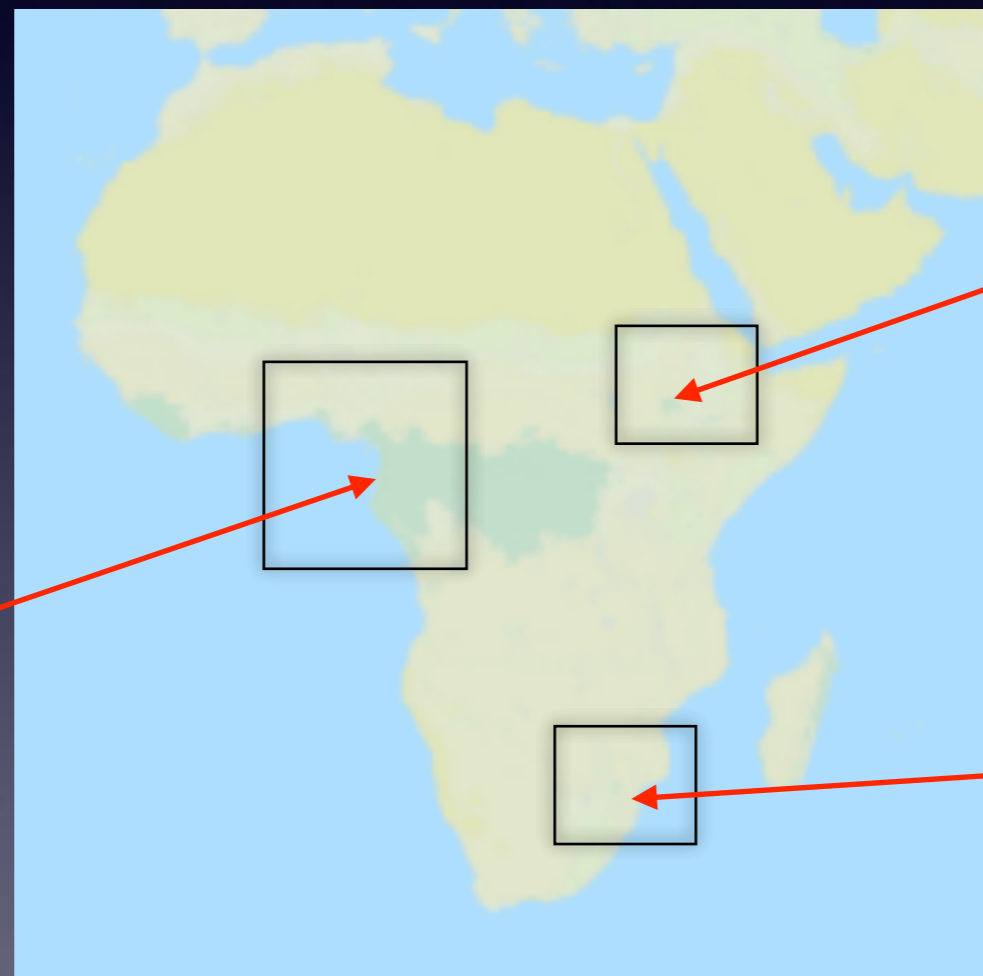
- Extent of Ming Dynasty voyages
- Who reached Australia first?
- Fate of various lost explorers
- Extent of contacts between ancient civilisations

# Programme for Spring Term 2018

Date	Topic	Facilitator
18 January	Introduction	Tim Ewbank
25 January	“Into the darkness”	Tim Ewbank
1 February	George Vancouver	Chris Wagner
8 February	Crossing the Sahara	Alan Bird
15 February	Canada’s Eastern Seaboard	Derek Jones
22 February	The Search for the NW passage	Bob Healand (SPRI)
1 March	Biological Exchange	Tim Ewbank
8 March	The Role of the Churches	Fr Estaban
15 March	The Explorers of Tibet	Janet Pope
22 March	“Show & Tell”	All

# *“into the darkness”*

the first European explorers into the African interior  
300 years before Livingstone, Stanley *et al*



The search for Prester John  
1488 -

Embassy to  
West Africa & N'gola  
1510

Monomatapa  
1514

# Crossing the Sahara





# The Exploration of Canada's Eastern Seaboard

Nearly all the exploration was motivated by the search for a North West Passage. To avoid overlap with the talk in the following week, this one will concentrate on the following topics:-

- (1) the Vikings
- (2) the Grand Banks fisheries
- (3) the fur trade and the Hudson Bay Company
- (4) Farming Settlement by French and British
- (5) The seven years' war = the French & Indian Wa

Leif Erikson discovers North America by Christian Krogh (1893).



# Biological exchange

Explorers brought back a huge range of new plants & animals from their travels, some of which went on to transform the diet & lifestyle of their recipients

The movement of people also led to interbreeding and the emergence of mixed races, which had been much less common, previously

There were also some less welcome biological transfers, namely diseases

Today crops & livestock are spread globally, regardless of their place of origin, to wherever the environmental & cultural conditions suit them. However, there was a time when they were confined to specific geographic areas.



# Exports from ...

Imports to ...

	Europe	Asia	Africa	Americas
Europe		Spices		
Asia				
Africa				
Americas				



*eg. Asia exports Spices to Europe  
Europe imports Spices from Asia*

# Exports from ...

Imports to ...

	Europe	Asia	Africa	Americas
Europe		Spices Horses		Potatoes Tobacco Syphillis
Asia			Slaves	
Africa		Rice		Maize
Americas	Horses Smallpox Measles	Sugarcane Wheat	Slaves	



# Course resources

Presentations can be posted on course website:

[www.zimbushboy.org/exploration](http://www.zimbushboy.org/exploration)

(dependent on presenters being willing to share their material)

Last year's talks can be found at:

<http://exploration.woodsforwards.uk/index.html>