

SoSe 2012

Prof. Dr. Jutta Zimmermann, Dr. Elisabeth Winkler

TAKE HOME EXAM

**Vorlesung "American Literary History:
A Survey from Colonial Times to the Present"**

Choose at least one of the following texts; you may also compare/contrast two:

Anne Bradstreet, "The Prologue [To Her Book]", "The Flesh and the Spirit", "Upon the Burning of
Our House",

Edward Taylor, "Huswifery"

Mary Rowlandson, *A Narrative of the Captivity and Restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson*

Discuss to what extent the text(s) is (are) representative of Puritan literature and to what extent the text(s) reflect(s) the cultural context in which it was (they were) written. Your answer should not be longer than 1,5 pages and should present an argument (write one or more introductory sentences in which you comment on your choice of text and on the distinct features of Puritan literature). Comment on both formal and thematic features of the text chosen. You may use secondary literature (if you do, make sure that you document your sources) but do not need to. Your answer should relate to the lecture (you can use or refute positions presented in the lecture).

Do not quote from the power point presentations (they do not qualify as a source as they are not published).