

Lecture 2 (Important Notes)

Colonial American literature is writing that emerged from the original U.S. colonies during the period from **1607 to the late 1700s**.

Colonial American literature includes the writings of Mary Rowlandson, William Bradford, Anne Bradstreet and John Winthrop.

Characteristics of Colonial American Literature :

Historical, Narrative, Religion and Poetry.

Historical: **John Smith**

Narrative: **Mary Rowlandson's** narrative account, "The Sovereignty and Goodness of God: Being a Narrative of the Captivity and Restoration.

Religion and Poetry: **Anne Bradstreet's** poetry, the "Bay Psalm Book,".

Many texts were written in pamphlet or narrative form and challenged the role of God and religious life, seeking to replace them with reason. Rational thought and science were the new themes. **"The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin" and the pamphlet "Common Sense" by Thomas Paine** explored many of these new ideas.