

American Studies 335  
New England  
Roger Williams University  
CAS 228  
M, W. & F 11:00-12:00  
Fall Semester, 2008

Michael R. H. Swanson, Ph. D.  
Office: CAS 110  
Hours: M, F, 9:00-10:00  
T, Th 11:00-12:30 or by appointment  
Phone: 254 3230  
E-mail: amst335@gmail.com

### Week of September 8, 2008

#### News Flash!!

A version of [\*New England's Prospect\*](#) is now available online courtesy of Google Books. (Google does everything, doesn't it?) The version is the version published by the Prince Society in 1865, which is a facsimile of the original publication. Take a look at it, and enjoy it for the old style printing and spelling, as well as for the woodcuts which decorate it. You'll see what a favor Dr. Vaughan has done for you. I'd be curious whether you're recommend relying on this version in future offerings of the course, or whether I should continue using the Vaughan edition. What do you think?

#### For *Monday, September 8*

Download and Read

[\*Mourt's Relation: A Journal of the Pilgrims at Plymouth\*](#). Part I.

Caleb Johnson is a descendant of the pilgrims who came over on the Mayflower, and he has provided a mammoth website of materials related to the first New England Settlement. He describes Mourt's Relation as "This journal, written by several Pilgrims--namely William Bradford and Edward Winslow--records events at Plymouth from the Mayflower's arrival in November 1620 through the First Thanksgiving in October 1621, and everything in between" You will need to download all sections of this text eventually, so why not do them all now?

#### **ADDITIONAL Internet work.**

- If you haven't downloaded and installed Google Earth on your computer do so now. Find it at <http://earth.google.com/> You might also consider joining a user's group you'll find by clicking [here](#).
- Also go to [Windows Live Local](#) and bookmark it. You'll have occasion to play around with both of these programs during the semester.

For *Wednesday, September 10*

Read, in *Wood*, Part I, Chapters 10-12, pp. 57-74

Note here the number of "plantations" Wood mentions. This will become significant as you begin to investigate town formation in early New England in the next unit of the course. In fact, why not make a list of them. (Lists help focus the mind).

*From the Internet*, visit <http://www.norcrossws.org/norcross.htm>

The link takes you to the website of a private wildlife sanctuary. Prowl around the website to see what kinds of information it contains (and what it doesn't contain which surprises you). It was established by a private individual and you will want to think about the motivation behind its establishment.

For *Friday, September 12*

Read, in *Wood*, Part II, Chapters 1-9, pp. 75-97,

Download and Read, from the Internet,

*Mourt's Relation*, parts [II](#) and [III](#).

Following his discussion of flora and fauna, Wood turns his attention to the indigenous Native American Population. Much of the material in Mourt's Relation also concerns contact with Native Americans.

- I want you to be observant of attitudes and prejudices which the narratives contain.
- What similarities are there and what differences between our sources?
- Are there ways to explain the differences?
- You'll find a mixed bag, here, with positive and negative observations. Take note (and notes, if that's helpful) of each.