**Dr. Ray’s Ninth Grade Literature and Composition Syllabus**

**Course Description:** Freshman English is a comprehensive English course of literature, composition, and language, including listening and speaking. The study of literature includes reading and comprehending a wide variety of literary forms including short stories, nonfiction, poetry, drama, and novels. This course also focuses on the writing process through response to literature, creative writing, and connections to real-life situations and problem-solving. The study of language targets usage, mechanics, and strategies for vocabulary development; in addition, the course will include grammatical concepts and applications.

 **Required Materials:** Blue or black pens, loose leaf paper, a folder or binder dedicated to my class

**Grading Policy**:

Report card grades are derived from averaging the following:

Major Grades: 60% (includes Assessments/Essays/Projects)

Minor Grades: 40% (includes classwork and homework)

Students will have a first semester midterm exam, and in the second semester, students will take the Georgia Milestones End of Course Test.

**Online Communications Policy:** The word “netiquette” is short for “Internet etiquette.” Students should be aware of the common rules of netiquette for the Web and employ a communication style that follows these guidelines. All internet based learning or grouping should be treated as if students were in a physical classroom. All electronic communication between the student and teacher shall be limited to email.

**Bathroom Passes:** So that instructional time is not disrupted, students will be allowed four bathroom passes per semester. If students do not have their passes, they will not be allowed to leave.

**Missing Work:** Students are responsible for determining what they missed when absent. Students are responsible for making up any tests, essays, or other assignments missed.

**Classroom Expectations:**

 1. RESPECT others and yourself at all times.

2. Bring materials to class daily.

 3. No eating, drinking, or profanity in class.

 4. If it does not belong to you, do not touch it.

 5. Electronic devices are not allowed in class.

 6. Behavior that affects the learning of other students will NOT be tolerated.