**8th Grade ELA Course Syllabus**

The Enhanced Literature & Composition I course is designed for 8th grade students seeking an accelerated learning experience that bridges both Georgia’s K-12 English Language Arts Standards’ 8th grade and 9th grade expectations. By blending key competencies from both grade-levels, this course provides a rigorous and engaging approach to prepare students for advanced high school coursework. Students who successfully complete this course will earn high school credit, positioning them for continued academic success in upper-level English language arts courses.

**Course Description**
The Enhanced Literature and Composition I course is tailored for 8th-grade students who have mastered the Grade 7 English language arts standards and seek an advanced curriculum that incorporates expectations from both 8th and 9th grades. Students will analyze, create, and evaluate texts across various genres and contexts, reinforcing their language skills and disciplinary practices. This course is designed to prepare students for the Grade 8 End-of-Grade Georgia Milestones and meets both the 8th and 9th grade English Language Arts standards. As a core course, it serves as an equivalent substitute for the required Literature and Composition course, allowing students to earn high school credit upon successful completion.

**Course Objectives:**

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Interpret and analyze complex texts across genres.
2. Construct well-structured written and oral presentations.
3. Engage in evidence-based discussions.
4. Apply language conventions and expand vocabulary.
5. Use digital tools to enhance learning and communication.
6. Develop research and source evaluation skills.
7. Demonstrate connections between reading, writing, speaking, listening, and creating.

**Required Materials**

* Pencils
* Loose Leaf Paper
* 1-inch Binder
* Colored Pencils/Markers/Crayons

**Grading Policy**

* **Minor Grades (60%)**: Classwork, Quizzes, Homework
* **Major Grades (40%)**: Unit Tests, Projects, Assessments

**Late Work**

* Late work will only be accepted during the quarter in which it was assigned.

**Make-Up Work**

* Allowed for excused absences only. Students are responsible for obtaining any missed assignments or notes during their excused absence. Students have 2 classes for each excused absence day to turn in work without penalty.

**Class Policies and Expectations**

1. Be Productive: Stay on task and follow directions.
2. Be Prompt: Arrive on time, ready to work.
3. Be Prepared: Bring necessary supplies and completed assignments.
4. Be Polite: Respect everyone and maintain personal space.
5. Be Positive: Maintain a positive attitude, collaborate respectfully, and avoid negativity in words and actions.