A. Course Description and Objectives
In English 9 students will study, through various fiction and nonfiction texts, the history, ideas, and belief systems that have helped shape various cultures around the world. In addition, as they read and analyze various texts, students are given the opportunity to reflect on their own personal experiences and compare them to the experiences and thoughts of others. The goal of this course is to help students enhance their skills in all five categories of the Alabama Common Core Standards for English/Language Arts, which include Reading Literature, Reading Informational Texts, Speaking and Listening, Language, and Writing standards. These standards are available for review at http://www.corestandards.org.

B. Mrs. Brown’s Mission Statement
My goal as your teacher is to guide you along your journey in life to become the intelligent and independent person you were created to be. I am here because I care, and I want you to be successful. You have to be willing to put in the time and the work that it takes to be successful. However, know that if you are willing to listen and try, I will do all in my power to help you reach your goals.

C. Required Supplies
1. Three-Ring Binder—at least 1 inch
2. Dividers (5)
3. Notebook Paper
4. Pencils
5. Red pens- used every day
6. Highlighters
7. Pack of copy paper
8. Boys—Kleenex
9. Girls—Sanitizer

D. Grades
1. INOW
   a) PLEASE monitor your grades on INOW.
   b) There is also a link on to the INOW parent portal on the Tuscaloosa County High School webpage.
   c) Please let me know immediately if you notice a problem.
   d) Students, please keep ALL GRADED ASSIGNMENTS in your notebook. You must show me the actual graded assignment if there is a discrepancy about an entered grade.
   2. Late work will NOT be accepted on daily grades and homework. Accepting late work only encourages late work.
      a) Homework that is not complete at the beginning of class will be counted as a zero.
      b) Projects worth 100 points or more (such as papers, book reports, presentations) may be turned in late; however, the overall score will be lowered a letter grade for each day the assignment is late.
   3. Cheating/Plagiarism
      a) Students will receive a ZERO for any plagiarized work or work copied from another student. In addition, students will be referred to the office.
   4. Make-Up Work
      i) Unexcused absences--Students will receive a zero for work they miss during an unexcused absence.
      ii) Suspensions--Students may receive up to 65% credit for work they miss during their first suspension, but they will receive zeroes for any subsequent suspensions.
      iii) Students are responsible for checking the Make-up Binder and the Make-up Folder to get assignments that they have missed. If no assignments are listed, students should then double-check with Mrs. Brown.
         a) Students have 2 DAYS to make-up their work they missed during an absence.
         b) Mrs. Brown will NOT remind students to make-up or turn in their work.
         c) Make-up work is recorded in INOW as a 0 until it is turned in to Mrs. Brown.
         d) To see what you missed, go to Michilyn Brown’s page on the school website. Check Calendar and Class Handouts for daily agenda and materials.
   6. Grading Scale:
      i) A = 90-100  B = 80-89  C = 70-79  D = 60-69  F = 59 and below
      ii) Passing—In order to pass and receive credit for this course, students must pass this with a yearly average of 60%.
      iii) Averages are based on total points system. Averages start over each 9 weeks.
      iv) Assessment methods may include but are not limited to tests, quizzes, pop-quizzes, homework, class assignments, group assignments, writing assignments, projects, and class participation.
      v) There will be a comprehensive 9 weeks test at the end of each 9 weeks.
E. **Leaving the room** Due to the fact that Mrs. Brown loves the sight of your precious face, it is crucial that you remain in my classroom at all times unless there is an emergency.
   1. **You receive 2 passes per 9 weeks.**
   2. **You must SIGN OUT BY YOUR NAME and TAKE A PASS WITH YOU!**

F. **Class Rules**
   1. **Be on time and on task with your required materials.**
      - Keep your notebook organized.
      - Keep everything Mrs. Brown gives you!!!!!!
        - DO NOT THROW AWAY ANY PAPERS UNLESS MRS. BROWN INSTRUCTS YOU TO DO SO!!!!!
   2. **Respect the teacher, the building, each other, and yourself.**
      - Discipline is love. **I love you enough to expect better** and to not put up with less than your best.
      - **The better you act the more fun we will have.**
        - Don’t get into a power struggle over Mrs. Brown correcting you. If I correct you, it is because I want you to change the behavior. If you do, then we move on! If you get an attitude or begin to argue, you will get in more trouble.
      - **You have a voice.**
        - You are always welcome to come talk to me if you are upset about something going on in my class or something going on outside my class.
      - **Don’t get crunk on my sub!**
        - Should Mrs. Brown ever be absent, you are expected to treat my substitute with the utmost respect. Students whose names are left by the substitute will be written up.
        - You are my precious angels, and you are expected to act like it! #youbettarepresent
   3. **Be responsible for your own learning.**
      - Ask questions.
      - Pay attention.
      - Study a little each night.
      - Stay organized.
   4. **Clean up after yourself and your peers.**
   5. **Do your own work!!! Students caught cheating will be written up.**
   6. **Cell phones are not to be out in the classroom unless Mrs. Brown gives you permission otherwise.**

G. **Failure to follow the rules above will result in the following:**
   1. Verbal warning/parent contact
   2. Parental contact
   3. Write-up slip
   4. Principal’s office

****Keep in mind that some infractions may make it necessary for me to skip steps 1-3.

Let’s have a great year!