



## 2026 Alabama History Institutes: Grades 7-12

### Alabama: The Story of U.S.

Historic Blakeley State Park, Mobile  
June 16-18, 2026

Melissa Motes, Mobile County Public Schools  
Alison Burrow, Mobile County Public Schools

Discover Mobile—Alabama’s oldest city—through an immersive professional learning experience at Historic Blakeley State Park. Mobile and the surrounding region, once part of West Florida, were considered the “fourteenth colony,” giving the city a unique standing in early American history. Explore how geography, global trade, and cultural exchange shaped Mobile’s past and continues to influence Alabama’s role in the world as our country approaches its 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Steeped in this legacy, the session highlights Mobile’s ongoing connections to the wider world.

Through hands-on activities, primary sources, and guided discussion, you will gain practical strategies and ready-to-use lessons that bring Mobile’s multicultural history to life and foster student engagement. Teachers will also take a boat trip through the Mobile-Tensaw Delta, the same waterway that sustained Native Americans and European colonists, preserved the shipwreck *Clotilda*, supported American shipbuilding during World War II, and serves as a hub for modern commerce.

You will leave this workshop with activities and resources aligned to the 2024 Social Studies Course of Study Standards. Please bring a personal device, such as a laptop or Chromebook, as you will be required to use it for full participation.

#### Questions?

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