

Coventry HS teacher attends 9/11 workshop

Matthew Brissette
is Social Studies
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COVENTRY — Teachers don't always take the summer off.

This summer, Coventry High School Social Studies Department Chair Matthew Brissette got busy learning more about one of the most pivotal days in modern American history as he traveled to Manhattan from July 11-15 to attend a week-long seminar entitled "9-11 and American Memory."

The seminar, which was put on by the Gilder-Lehrman Institute of American History, was led by historian Edward T. Linenthal of Indiana University and explored the historical causes and background, the immediate impact, and the developing legacies of the attacks of September 11, 2001, according to a release issued by the institute. The seminar also examined the history of how Americans, as well as other cultures, have faced and coped with episodes of great violence (full-scale wars as well as specific traumatic events) such as the American Civil War, the Great War in Europe,



Brissette

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the Holocaust of the World War II era, or the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Teachers had access to the collections of the 9/11 Memor-

ial & Museum, as well as the historic site and memorial itself, as subjects for inquiry into the nature of commemoration.

According to the release, Brissette joined K-12 teachers, library educators, and National

Park Service interpreters. Seminar participants worked with primary source documents provided by their professor and the Gilder Lehrman Collection to enrich their knowledge and develop lesson plans.