

## Video Transcript - YES! Intern Talk - 'Cultural Anthropology from Canoes to iPhones'

Carlos: Cultural Anthropology. What is cultural anthropology? Cultural anthropology is the study of what humans do. Whether it be in the diverse societies or the many cultures that exist. This summer, to me, was a life-changing experience. I got to learn about what anthropology was, what it consisted of and how it affected my life on a personal level.

Carlos: I got to be a part of the YES! internship program at the museum, which is Youth Engagement through Science. My mentor was Josh Bell, [00:00:30] an anthropologist at the museum. Because of his job, I got to participate in this amazing opportunity, where I got to help with a canoe that was being gifted to the museum from New Zealand.

Carlos: I got to lash the canoe. I got to be a part of and see the carving that was being done and the painting. I felt that bridging this gap between cultures really affected me because of the changing world we live in. Besides that, I began to talk about and learn about cell phones. I know [00:01:00] that when I say this, you guys are going to be surprised but, I got to explode an iPhone.

Carlos: I know, tech people, I'm sorry, but exploding this cell phone allowed me to learn about what I have in my pockets. You see, in my pockets, and I'm pretty sure that in your pockets too, if you pull out your cell phones, you have over seventy-three elements in the palm of your hand. Seventy-three elements, which might not even be in your home.

Carlos: I got to learn about the effects that these people mining these elements (because everything comes from the earth, [00:01:30] of course), the effects that these elements have, whether it be health issues, or even something related to their families. Because you never know the circumstances that these people have. They work in factories, they work in mines, and they might be affected negatively by the things that we have.

Carlos: I feel that if we begin to take this into consideration, we begin to understand and see the effects of what we have, benefits us, but might be harmful for other people. [00:02:00] I feel that anthropology opened the door for me to see something new, to be able to feel something close to the things that I own.

Carlos: You see, not many people know about anthropology. And specifically, cultural anthropology. You see, it sits between physical and life sciences. There's chemistry, biology on one hand. And on the other, there's sociology and things like psychology, of course, dealing with the mind. And if you take [00:02:30] into consideration what anthropology is, you begin to see that it encompasses so many other things that you can think about. There's culture, linguistics, forensics, and all those types of things which we might not think about.

Carlos: I myself wasn't that knowledgeable of what anthropology was, but this summer changed this for me. I got to be a part of this amazing program which the Smithsonian let me be a part of, and I feel that if you guys take your own journeys, if you guys look

for opportunities, just like I [00:03:00] did, I know that I'm a teenager talking to you guys about anthropology. You guys can do the same thing. I encourage you guys, take your journey and you will see that it was worth it in the long run. Thank you.