## American Anthropological Association Anthropologists Go Back to School Program

## Facilitated by Oyinkansola Ojo-Aromokudu



This video is intended to be an introduction to the idea of Anthropology and to encourage students to consider it as a possible career choice. In this video I talk about four major things. Firstly, I talk about my journey to Anthropology, in how I came to study it at University and what my career looks like up to this point where I am about to start my PhD using anthropological methods. I then talk about Anthropology itself, and the different strands of Anthropology and what each one covers. I take a brief deep dive into the different areas in Social Anthropology that I covered as an undergraduate. Thirdly, I take some time to describe my research and fieldwork that was based in Malta as part of my undergraduate dissertation. I talk about issues of legality, illegality and the non-place with regards to migration and how Anthropology is able to give a platform to those most affected and understand their experiences from their point of view. Throughout the presentation, I introduce Anthropological terms and encourage students to take time to consider their applicability in their own daily experiences. I end by highlighting the skills that anthropologists make use of, and how anthropology can be very tangible and an absolutely worthwhile career choice.

**Keywords:** Social Anthropology, migration, ethnography, participant observation, ethnocentrism, cultural relativism

## **Suggested Questions for students:**

- Take a look at your class. What things are the same between all the students and what are different? (Prompt: Maybe talk about language, customs, cultural holidays, family structure, religion etc)
- Take a moment to imagine someone who you think is the total opposite of you. If you
  could meet them, list three questions you would ask them about how they live. (Eg. Who
  chose your name? Why do you live in this part of the country? Why do you wear certain
  clothes?) (Let the students list the questions, then they answer those questions
  themselves).
- Imagine you're talking to someone from a very different culture to your own. How would you explain 'American culture'?
- How do you think migration impacts things such as food, language, music and art?