

Professions identity among occupational therapist students in USA and Denmark- a comparison across cultures.

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Introduction: In both The European Union and USA, occupational therapists contribute to solving important tasks in health and rehabilitation. One of the differences between those, is that occupational therapists in The European Union can exercise their practice with a bachelor's education where as it requires a master level in both USA and Canada. This could lead to the idea, that there will be a difference in what kind of students who are looking for education and thus also the student's identity.

Purpose: The purpose of the study is to uncover whether, there is a difference between the student's identity on the occupational therapy program in Denmark and USA, respectively, among new students in 2 semesters compared to students at the end of the education.

Method: The 2-year students have completed a questionnaire that measures different variables with regard to identity. For this purpose, a modified PSIQ questionnaire has been used, and with the results calculates a correlation coefficient between the variables in PSIQ relative to a national stratification with a aim to identifying a difference in identity depending on national affiliation.

Results: The comparisons of the students will be presented both targeting; the differences and the similarities.

Conclusion: As the world is becoming more and more international, this might be important in the future, especially since different levels of occupational therapy already complicate international mobility. Further, the results focus on whether the cultural context, and the education level are important for what types of students are looking for education.