

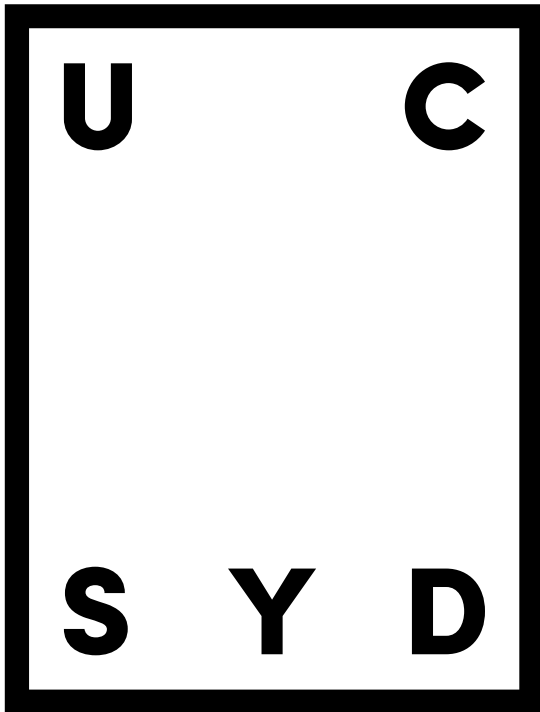
# Creighton

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## UNIVERSITY



# The shaping of social identity among OT students in USA and Denmark



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# Who are we

- Professor and Chair of OT Department at Creighton University, USA
- Research interest
  - Evidence based practice
  - Evaluation and assessment
  - International OT
  - Interprofessional Education



# Who are we

- Lecture at university college south Denmark Dr. Kim Lee
- Research interest
  - Environmental health
  - Social identities among healthcare workers
  - organizational culture & sickness absence



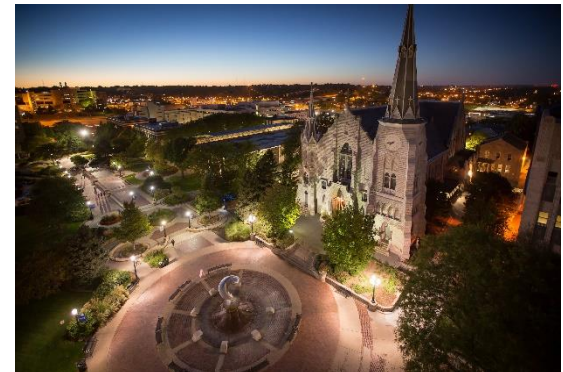
# Who are we

- Research assistance Pia Ilvig
- MSc in Health (Occupational Therapy)
- Research interest
  - Obesity intervention
  - Complex interventions
  - Evidence based practice



# Background & Aim

- We want to explore the process that our students undergo during the education in becoming an OT
- Going from student to become educated OT
- Empirical object is OT students in DK and USA
- The cultural background of the students
- The aim of this study is to compare the Danish and American students and uncover if the contextual background influences on the shaping of identity



# OT education in Denmark

- The education for occupational therapist is nominated to 3½ year. It is a bachelor degree
- Master (2 years) and Ph.d (3 years) program at university of south Denmark
- The education is divided into internship and theoretical teaching
- The internship is 32 weeks all together placed at 4 different semesters

# OT education in Denmark (2)

- OT`s in Denmark is mostly employed in the public sector
- The education is free and the government supports the student financially
- Social mobility
- Diversity in background



# OT education in USA



- Currently two levels of entry to the OT profession
  - MSOT MOT and OTD
  - Entry OTD requires undergraduate study
- Mandate: doctoral degree entry by 2027
- Current education trends
  - Distinct value of OT
  - IPE and IPP
  - OT role in primary care
  - Important force in Triple Aims

# Theoretical Framework

- Everyday practice is about navigating the social landscape (Whyte, S 2007)
- The end goal is known but the way can be diverse
- Crossroad and cross pressure (Barth, F 1986)



# Method

- Questionnaire to all before internship and then again after return from internship
- All 4 internships (Denmark and all four level-one, two level-two, and one DEC USA)
- Questionnaire covering 5 areas
  - 1 contact to clients
  - 2 professional knowledge
  - 3 clinical reasoning
  - 4 what the student think how other students will perceive the students professional skills
  - 5 Sociodemographic background variables
- Followed up by narrative interview

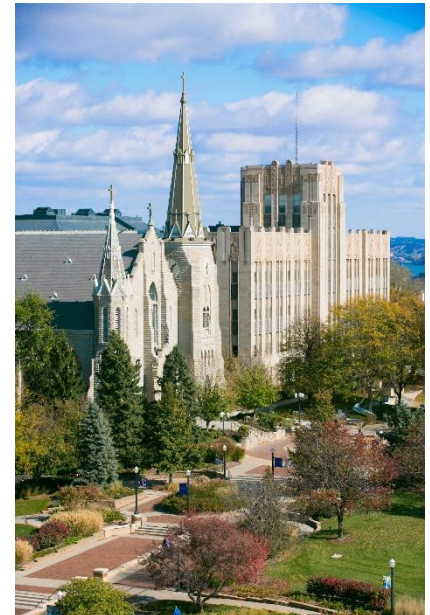
# Preliminary (Ucsyd)

- If the student is married the less cross pressure they experience
- The older the student are at the beginning of the study the more insecure they feel
- Educational level doesn't influences on the concerns or the insecurity of the student
- Cross pressure is mostly a question about loyalty between, self, family, friends and educational obligations



# Future plan

- Survey OTD students in USA
- Examine the differences and similarities among different years of students
- Examine the differences and similarities between Danish students and American Students
- Examine the impact of cultural factors





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