DENMARK

March 10 – 19, 2017
Registration Deadline: December 1, 2016

Course:
SOC 494: Field Studies in Sociology, 3 credits

Website: www.ccsu.edu/Denmark

Cost: $2,995 per person, based on multiple occupancy.
CIE Scholarships are available. See program website.

Program Director:
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POVERTY AND WELFARE:
COMPARING DENMARK & THE U.S.

This sociology class will focus on issues of class inequities and welfare policy in the U.S., with an in-depth comparison to how class and welfare policy are constructed in Denmark, a social welfare state. Historically, in places like Sweden, Norway, the Netherlands, and Denmark, large parts of the national budget have gone towards social welfare programs. These Social Welfare countries have long believed that all citizens have certain rights and privileges, including the right to housing, education, child care, and health care. This is very different from how things are done in the U.S.

During the on-campus course component, students will focus on a comparison of social policy programs here and in Denmark. Participants will learn more detail about American poverty and social welfare policies and compare it to the class inequality and social welfare in Denmark. During the Spring semester course abroad component, they will have the opportunity to witness for themselves what life is like in a Social Democracy, and will speak not only to citizens, but learn from professionals, researchers, and educators on this topic. Denmark is a great choice for this comparison for several reasons. First, Denmark is the only European nation to have developed a clear strategy targeting homelessness, with an emphasis on housing (similar to the U.S. model), that has been empirically researched and evaluated. Second, students will have the opportunity to visit more than one university, research center, and locale in Denmark. At Aalborg University, students will have the opportunity to work alongside Danish students, experiencing a classroom environment in another country.

In Copenhagen, students will engage with researchers at the Danish National Centre for Social Research, and have the opportunity to learn about housing programs that have been created and instituted in Denmark for the last 10 years. Finally, the Council for Socially Marginalized People is comprised of social partners, local government representatives, and non-governmental organizations. Students will meet with members of the Council in one or two smaller locales so that they can have a more intimate experience of how social policies are enacted.

Incorporated into the course abroad section, students will also experience all that Denmark has to offer. Ranked by the UN as the “happiest nation in the world,” they will learn about the history of Denmark, experience the various food and music, the culture (i.e. take the Hans Christian Andersen tour), and explore the different geography of the country.

Program Costs
The cost of the travel program includes round-trip airport transfers in the U.S. and abroad, economy-class international airfare, multiple-occupancy accommodations, some meals, ground transportation, and most entrance fees. All personal expenses (i.e., most meals, medical, souvenirs, laundry, telephone, etc.) are at additional cost. CCSU reserves the right to make changes to the program itinerary at any time, with or without notice.