

DEBORAH JACOBSON, Ph.D, LISW-S, ACSW

Faculty Biographical Sketch

Deborah R. Jacobson is an *Assistant Professor* at MSASS/Case Western Reserve University and *Director of International Education*. She is also the instructor of many of the International Travel/Study courses and programs. These have included programs to the Bangladesh, China, El Salvador, Greece, Guatemala, India, Israel, Kenya, Netherlands and Ukraine and invite all students and interested professionals.

She has been teaching full time at MSASS since 1997, however, began as an adjunct faculty member in 1993. She received the Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award at MSASS in 1999 and 2006 and was a finalist on two other occasions. From 2005-2009 she had a secondary appointment at the rank of Assistant Professor of Bio Ethics, Department of Bioethics, School of Medicine. In 2007, she submitted an application that won a prestigious award for MSASS from the Council of Social Work Education (CSWE)'s Global School Social Work Education Commission. She received a Learning Fellowship Award (UCITE) in 2006 and completed a 10-month training in Cognitive Therapy in 2004. She taught at Delaware Technical and Community College from 1990 – 1992 in the social science department. She is a Licensed Independent Social Worker (LISW-S) and has her Academy of Certified Social Workers Certificate (ACSW). She received her Ph.D. from Tulane University. Her dissertation was an experimental design comparing the effects of an educational support group for women with Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder with a control group. Her MSW is from Louisiana State University and her BS (major: Social Work, minor: Psychology) from Illinois State University. She did a study abroad program in Brighton, England in 1979/80 and has traveled to Europe and Israel many times, Russia, Bangladesh, India and China.

Her teaching areas include Research (Introduction and Practice Evaluation), Social Work Methods, Family System Theories, ABLE (Ability Based Learning Environment), Integrative Seminar and Travel/Study courses. She has developed and led several Netherlands courses: Survey for undergraduate students (2005) and Women's Health Issues, in partnership with Bioethics and the University Center for Women (2006), as well as a Health Policy course (2007). She also co-developed and co-led a Summer Netherlands (2007) Alumni Program with New York University (NYU). She co-developed and co-led an India International Travel/Study course (2007) in partnership with Southern Illinois University, Carbondale (SIUC). She also developed and led a course in Greece (2008) in partnership with CIF (Council of International Fellowship). In 2008 she co-developed and co-led a Bangladesh International Travel/Study course in Micro Enterprise and Social Development in partnership with SIUC as well as developed and co-lead a course in Women's Health in Israel, in partnership with Jewish Community Federation (JCF). In addition, she developed and led a course in Health and Human Services to China. In 2008 she submitted documents to attain Global and Cultural recognition from CWRU for International Travel/Study courses. She also planned and helped to implement programs for Dutch group to the U.S. In 2009 she will co-teach a new course in Religion and Health Across the Life Span with SIUC and JCF in Israel as well as repeat the course in Bangladesh. She will also co-teach a course to Ecuador in partnership with SIUC.

She supervised the *Advanced Standing Program* from 2004 – 2007. This program allows students with full and partial advanced standing credits (from accredited BSW programs) to complete their Masters program within a year to 18 months. She was responsible for overseeing the *Intensive Weekend Program* from 1997-2004. In this program students employed full time in a social service agency can earn their Masters in Social Service Administration Degree (MSSA). She has served on many School/University Committees, including: Chair of the Committee on Students, Faculty Senate, University International Leadership, Steering, Curriculum, Budget Subcommittee, Field, Intensive Weekend and Recruitment Advisory Boards, among others. She has served as Faculty Adviser to Case Western Reserve Softball Team.

She was active in the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), as co-chair of the State Membership & Public Relations Committee and past member of the State Budget and Program Planning Committee. She is also the past chair of Region III Program and Planning committee. She has presented at the International Social Work Conference, Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, at both National and State NASW conferences, OAGE (Ohio Association of Gerontology and Education), Summit and Lorain County Children Services, MSASS Continuing Education Workshops, East Cleveland Schools and did consultation for the Achievement Centers, Cleveland, OH. Prior to her career in academia, she worked as a Group Services Worker for the Jewish Community Center, a School Social Worker, a Psychotherapist and Behavioral Counselor for Juvenile Court Services, a group facilitator for the Epilepsy Council and for visually impaired clients, a Counselor for Youth Alternatives, Inc. (residential treatment) and was a Foster Parent.