



Zoë Breen Wood, MSW, PhD, LSW

Faculty Biographical Sketch

Dr. Zoë Breen Wood is an Assistant Professor and member of the faculty and at the Jack, Joseph, and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University with over 40 years' experience as a practitioner, researcher, educator, and consultant in the fields of social work practice, policy, and education. She received her BA from the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana, her MSW from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA and her PhD from the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences. Her research focuses on factors that contribute to positive adoption outcomes for children placed through the child welfare system as well as on strategies for strengthening student learning in social work education.

At the doctoral level, Dr. Wood teaches a seminar on social work education. Her teaching areas at the master's level include direct practice methods, trauma informed social work practice with children and families, adoption practice and policy, and child and family policy and service delivery, and she coordinates international travel and study tours to Guatemala and Nicaragua. She has also provided training and consultation on child welfare related issues in Guatemala, Romania, Ethiopia, Zambia and Belize.

In addition to her extensive child welfare background, Dr. Wood has worked for much of her career on the implementation and evaluation of competency based education, and provided consultation and training in leadership development. Recently she has been involved in developing strategies for virtual education including the development of courses in the online format and piloting the use of virtual reality programs in teaching direct practice methods. In addition to her teaching responsibilities at the School, she has also served as the Director of Field Education, Director of the School's Ability Based Learning Program and the CoDirector of the Center for Public Sector Leadership and Service. Currently, Dr. Wood serves as the Director of Educational Outcomes Assessment.