



JACK, JOSEPH AND MORTON MANDEL  
SCHOOL OF APPLIED SOCIAL SCIENCES

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## **DEBORAH R. JACOBSON, Ph.D., LISW-S, ACSW** Faculty Biographical Sketch

**Deborah R. Jacobson** is an *Assistant Professor* at MSASS/Case Western Reserve University and former *Director of International Education*. For over 10 years, the Mandel School study abroad courses have taken more than 700 participants to 13 countries across four continents. Over 1/3 of faculty-led short-term programs at CWRU are offered by the Mandel School. The International Education courses have included programs in Bangladesh, China, Ecuador, El Salvador, Greece, Guatemala, India, Israel, Kenya, Netherlands, Switzerland, Turkey and Ukraine. 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 10-month training in Cognitive Therapy in 2004. She supervised the *Advanced Standing Program* from 2004 – 2007. She was director of the *Intensive Weekend Program* from 1997-2004. 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.

Her teaching areas have included 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 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 Council of International Fellowship (CIF). In 2008 she co-developed and co-led a Bangladesh International Travel/Study course in Micro Enterprise and Social Development in partnership with SIUC (course ran for four years). She also developed and co-led two courses to Israel in partnership with Jewish Community Federation (JCF). One was a course in Women's Health Across the Lifespan (2009) and one course in Religion and Health (2010), also in partnership with the Department of Religious Studies at CWRU. In addition, she developed and led a course in Health and Human Services to China in 2009 and a course in Social, Health & Human Services to Ecuador, in 2010, in partnership with Andean Studies (co-taught 3 years). She also planned and helped to implement programs for Dutch students to the U.S in 2009 and 2010. In 2010/11 she co-developed and led a course to Turkey in partnership with Anadolu University Turkey. In 2011/12 she co-led the course in Guatemala and helped to facilitate the development of a new course in Poland. In 2012/13 she co-developed and led course with school of Engineering to India: Global Issues and Sustainability. She continues to take students to India every winter break.

She has served on many University Committees including: Faculty Senate, CWRU Center for Civic Engagement and Learning Advisory Committee, University International Leadership Committee, University International and Education Abroad Advisory Committees as well as several sub-committees such as the Undergraduate International Study Abroad, Short Term Study Abroad Programs and Risk Management subcommittees. She was on a capstone committee for the Department of Economics. At MSASS, she worked with the International Education Advisory Committee; she was Chair of the Committee on Students, as well as a member of the Steering, Curriculum, Budget Subcommittee, Field, Intensive Weekend committees and Recruitment Advisory Boards among others. She has also served as Faculty Adviser to Case Western Reserve Softball Team.

She was and continues to be active in the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) as past 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 currently serves on the State International Service Committee. She has presented at International Social Work Conferences in Dhaka, Bangladesh and the United States, Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, and at both National and State NASW conferences, Ohio Association of Gerontology and Education (OAGE), 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. She continues to do support work with InMotion, a Parkinson's wellness facility.