

# NIPISSING

U N I V E R S I T Y

North Bay

[www.nipissingu.ca](http://www.nipissingu.ca)

Bachelor of Social Work



## Honours Bachelor of Social Work

If you have ever observed children playing and wondered how it impacts their development, speculated about the personal history of a homeless person, witnessed an older person with a mobility aide trying to navigate through a busy store and wondered how they coped, thought about our First Nations communities and how you could contribute to reconciliation, then you are well on your way to developing the ability to think about people in their environments and considering the types of resources or social actions required to resolve complex issues of people who need help.

Social work is about people, places and society and stimulating collective well-being. Working with a person's strengths and/or a community's assets, social workers stimulate problem-solving and creative development to tackle contemporary social challenges and promote inclusion and equality. The principles of anti-oppression and anti-discrimination underpin our program's particular emphasis on social work with diverse identities in northern, rural and remote contexts including Indigenous and Franco-Ontarian communities.

Through a blend of classical and innovative teaching approaches, we are dedicated to establishing a positive climate for learning through supportive interaction, integrity, personal growth and creative expression. Our integration of classroom and experiential learning fosters the development of core competencies for relationship-based social work with individuals, families and groups and for structural approaches to effect positive social change to build communities where everyone thrives.

## Our Teaching Approach

Consistent with Nipissing University's commitment to a student-centered approach to learning, the social work program values smaller classrooms and a collegial atmosphere that includes teaching contributions from service users and caregivers or 'experts by experience'. Students also benefit from the program's provision of 900 hours of field education in a range of health and social care settings to cultivate their professional social work skills and give them the competitive edge for a future career in social work.

*Students work alongside community members to promote and celebrate inclusiveness and diversity.*



*Students learn hands-on skills in field education connecting theory and practice skills.*



## Program and Faculty

At Nipissing University we have adopted a two plus two approach. In the first two generalist years our students have an opportunity to obtain knowledge from across the humanities and social sciences by completing a diverse array of courses from various disciplines. This means that you benefit from having the ability to select courses of interest while simultaneously meeting the prescribed breadth requirement for a degree in social work.

In the following two professional years the program focuses on preparing you for social work practice by developing competencies in effecting change in a variety of situations that impact individuals, families, groups, organizations or communities. In addition to fostering the development of intervention skills in northern, rural and remote contexts, you will obtain an in-depth understanding of the ways in which social, cultural and institutional structures benefit and disadvantage various segments of society.

Our faculty and staff are registered social workers with a range of practice backgrounds that include adult and children's mental health, older people, education, sexual violence, and dementia care. We benefit from a supportive social work community in the north and include current practitioners in our teaching on a regular basis. Our faculty are also

involved in ground-breaking research in areas such as mitigating stress in older people with dementia-related visual impairment, understanding how loneliness and aloneness shape lives or identities across the life course, and how to critically use anti-oppressive theories in social work practice.

## Why Nipissing?

You will feel at home the minute you step onto campus. Becoming a part of our community is just one of the many perks of attending Nipissing. You will benefit from small class sizes where everyone knows your name and you are encouraged to express your opinions. Should you need help, you will have access to supportive professors, even outside of classroom hours.

Nipissing is focused on student success and you will have access to a full range of student services that will help you succeed academically, financially, and personally.

In addition, we have some of the best residences in Canada with a guaranteed private room for all first-year students coming directly from high school.

Come and see for yourself why Nipissing University is right where you belong.

*Field education in a wide range of settings provides the opportunity for students to demonstrate the professional standards of social work.*



## Where Can I Go From Here?

Social work is a regulated profession and graduates normally register with the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers or an equivalent body in other provinces or countries.

Graduates of an Honours Bachelor Degree in Social Work find employment in a variety of sectors and settings. Some of these include hospitals, schools, child protection services, correctional facilities, mental health clinics, long term care settings, and government and research institutes.

Education opportunities don't necessarily stop here though. Students may decide to continue their education in Graduate Studies and obtain a Master of Social Work or another related graduate degree.



**Sign up for Open House or a campus tour,  
and get more info at:**

**[ibelongatnipissingu.ca](http://ibelongatnipissingu.ca)**

Tours should be arranged at least one week in advance.



ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

Student Recruitment Office, 100 College Drive, Box 5002, North Bay, ON P1B 8L7  
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