

NIPISSING

U N I V E R S I T Y

North Bay

www.nipissingu.ca

Social Welfare and Social Development



Welcome

Do you think about changing the world and making it a better place, but you aren't sure where to start? Do you want to empower people and enrich the lives of others? If you have a passion for social issues and want to advocate for social justice, then the Social Welfare and Social Development program at Nipissing University is where you belong.

We hope you will join us as you continue your academic journey. If you do, you will attend classes led by friendly and approachable faculty. You will also become part of a group of progressive students who are active participants in the university and its surrounding communities.

Our Program

Bachelor of Arts

- Honours Specialization
- Specialization
- Major

The Social Welfare and Social Development program is unique in Canada in both name and content. It focuses on social inequality and the groups that have been underrepresented in the distribution of resources, opportunities, and power. Our students graduate with a thorough understanding of the causes and consequences of inequality in global, national, and local contexts, and an ability to formulate options for addressing these disparities.

Our required courses examine the social, political, and historical contexts of poverty and the forms of oppression that give rise to social marginalization. You also become familiar with the numerous struggles to make societies more equitable, while achieving social justice.

In SWLF 2995, a full-year seminar, you will volunteer at an agency that

provides social and/or health services in our community. This is a great opportunity for you to obtain meaningful, real-world experience.

Our elective courses focus on, for instance, women, First Nations, health, homelessness, family violence, crime, and addictions. In addition, the courses we cross-list from other programs consider children, race, ethics, human rights, law – and much more.

Collaborative Degree-Diploma Program

Once you are registered in the Social Welfare and Social Development program at Nipissing, you will have the option of applying for entry into our collaborative program with Canadore College, which is conveniently located next door. In just four years, you can earn an Honours Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Welfare and Social Development as well as a Social Service Worker diploma.

You will attend Nipissing in your first, second, and fourth years. Your course of study examines social inequality, with a focus on poverty, unmet human needs, and the various forms of oppression that give rise to social marginalization.

In your third-year, at Canadore, you will receive training in the practical knowledge and skills of the Social Service Worker profession. Instruction will include interviewing techniques, working with different client groups, crisis intervention, family dynamics, human development and Indigenous cultures and practices. In your final semester (April-June) at Canadore, you will complete a 350-hour fieldwork placement at a human service agency, enabling you to acquire valuable skills in a workplace setting.

After fulfilling all your degree and diploma requirements, you will be eligible to apply to register with the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers (OCSWSSW).





Advanced Standing: Social Service Worker Diploma

Have you earned a two-year Social Service Worker diploma from an Ontario college? If you have, you can receive up to two full years (60 credits) of advanced standing toward a 4-year Honours Bachelor of Arts degree in our program. For further information, email admissions@nipissingu.ca or call **705-474-3450 ext. 4600**.

Considering Social Work?

If you are considering taking Nipissing's Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree, you will first have to complete two years of general, liberal arts studies. If this is your plan, we offer many courses that will provide you with excellent preparation for the BSW.

Our Teaching Approach

The Social Welfare and Social Development program has a core of full-time faculty who teach all the required courses as well as a majority of our electives. We also have a number of part-time faculty who are experts in their fields. With small class sizes, you will be able to get to know your professors on a first-name basis and receive personal attention from us.

Our teaching approach is designed to give you the skills you require in order to be both capable workers and effective and compassionate citizens. Course assignments focus on developing competencies in critical thinking, analytical reasoning, active reading, public speaking, and conducting research. We place a particular emphasis on writing, on being able to



communicate ideas in prose that is persuasive, concise, and elegant.

In Social Welfare and Social Development, faculty are dedicated to your success and will ensure that you receive a first-rate education.

Bachelor of Education: The Schulich School of Education

If you want to earn a Bachelor of Education (BEd) degree, you can choose from the Concurrent route (available with all honours undergraduate programs except Nursing and Social Work), or the Consecutive Program (once you've completed your undergraduate degree).

The Schulich School of Education is one of the best education programs in Ontario. It will prepare you to teach in both traditional and non-traditional environments, and you will gain communication and collaborative skills that can be used in any career.

Our teacher candidates are immersed in an active professional learning environment with support and resources available through our Professional Learning Centre.

Each term a calendar of opportunities is made available, and you will be invited to participate in a series of real-world professional experiences that help you to hone skills, strategies and activities that integrate digital technology resources, enhance school community involvement, develop a personal résumé, portfolio and interview techniques, and much more.

All professional learning opportunities are designed to support and supplement course content by broadening teaching/learning skills and by building your confidence and readiness for the teaching profession.



"The reason I chose Nipissing is because I wanted to be more than a number in a large lecture hall; I wanted to have personal connections with my professors. They all went above the call of duty on so many occasions, always exceeding my expectations. They made this a great experience for me, and I have learned so much. I think back to the introductory course and am amazed at how dramatically different I am now. I owe my success and motivation to continue my education to the Social Welfare and Social Development faculty."

Samantha Lee, Social Welfare and Social Development (Honours) '16



Where Can I Go from Here?

After you graduate, you could be employed in various departments in the public sector, at the federal, provincial, and municipal levels; in government-funded institutions, such as human service organizations, hospitals, prisons, and universities; or by charities, foundations, trade unions, interest groups, political parties, advocacy associations, religious institutions, Indigenous organizations, or global non-governmental organizations (NGOs). With your degree in Social Welfare and Social Development, you should find a place in the labour market that makes effective use of your qualifications.

At the same time, the more education you have, the more likely it is that you will find a suitable position. Some of our students have gone on to pursue careers in social work (after earning a BSW) and teaching (after completing a BEd). In fact, you can earn both these credentials right here at Nipissing.

There are opportunities as well for higher education at the Master's level. Our faculty are happy to chat with you about your pursuit of these opportunities.

Sign up for Open House, a tour, or more information: ibelongatnipissingu.ca

For more information please visit www.nipissingu.ca/socialwelfare



ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

Student Recruitment Office, 100 College Drive, Box 5002, North Bay, ON P1B 8L7
 tel: (705) 474-3450 ext. 4200 • toll free (within Ontario): (800) 655-5154 • tty: (877) 688-5507
nuinfo@nipissingu.ca • www.nipissingu.ca • www.facebook.com/NipissingU • [@NipissingU](https://twitter.com/NipissingU) @NURecruitment

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