

# NIPISSING

U N I V E R S I T Y

North Bay

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

Sociology





## Program Description

Are you fascinated by human behaviour? Do you want to know what makes a person act or react in a certain manner? Are you interested in learning how behaviour is influenced by social status, race, religion, and gender?

If you choose to study Sociology, you will discover a compelling and broad discipline. You will examine the structure of social institutions like family, class, community, government, and legal systems, and will analyze issues that range from individual matters like gender identity, aging, and religion to societal issues like war and peace, social inequality, and economic development. Studying these topics will help you to develop keen observation and analytical skills and will enhance your understanding of the impact of social structures on individual life chances.

Our Sociology program is offered through the Sociology and Anthropology department, where applied research is emphasized. That means that you will gain theoretical knowledge, and also have plenty of opportunities for hands-on research and experiential learning. Nipissing University is situated in an area of strong First Nations activity and influence and many of our faculty have research relationships with First Nations communities.

The Statistics Canada Research Data Centre at Nipissing University provides access to detailed data of Canadian surveys and censuses for research, promotes the use of data through associated training, and assists in the dissemination of research results.

## Our Teaching Approach

Sociologists observe behavior with the goal of gaining insights about significant social forces. Our teaching approach focuses on providing a solid classical and contemporary theoretical background while developing an arsenal of applied research methods. Our emphasis on data collection, research, and analysis will prepare you to do research in real-world situations. In your qualitative and quantitative research courses, you will learn valuable job-related skills like conducting interviews, focus groups, and survey research, as well as using specialized data analysis software like Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS).

You may also have an opportunity to work with one of your professors as a research assistant, which is an exciting opportunity that will help you gain valuable hands-on experience. As a research assistant, you will engage in ongoing research projects in Sociology department in diverse areas, such as school-to-work transitions, mental health and illness, family transitions, childbearing and reproductive health, aging workforce, archaeological digging and monitoring, ethnography of Aboriginal communities, and

palliative care. If you choose to move on to graduate school, or into a career in applied social research, you will have a competitive edge with the strong background in research methods and social data analysis techniques that you will gain at Nipissing.

## Program and Faculty

### Bachelor of Arts

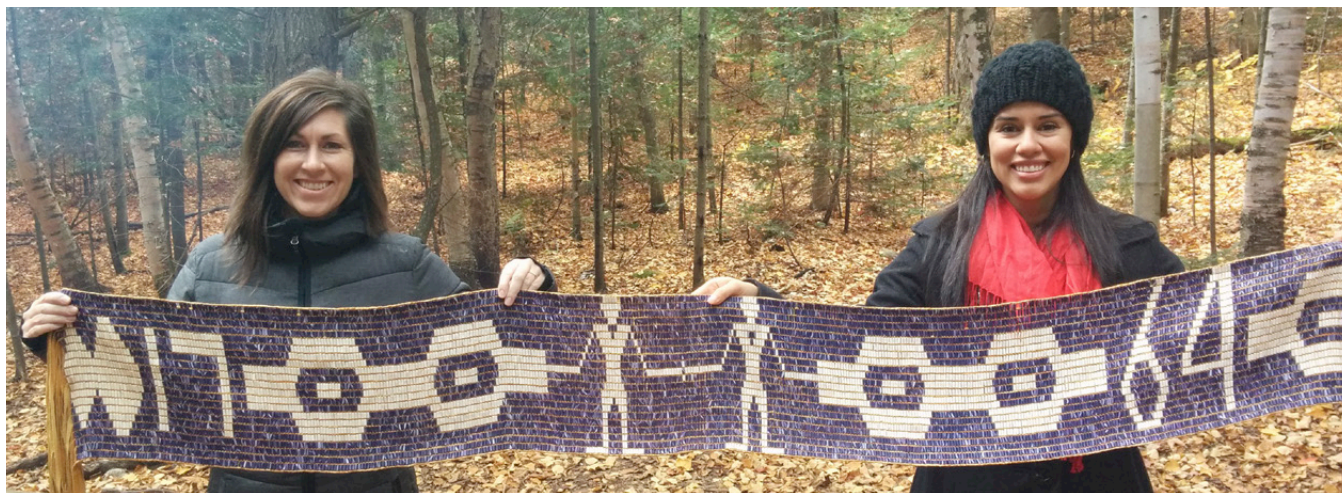
- Honours Specialization
- Specialization
- Major
- Minor

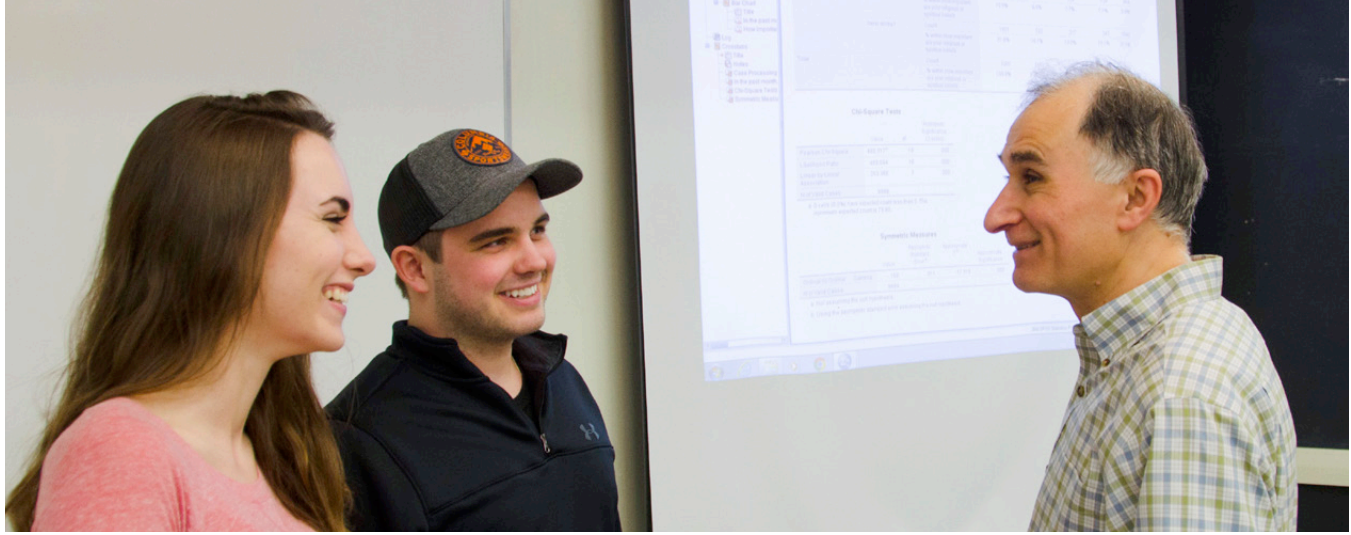
Your first and second years will include introductory courses in research methods, techniques of social data analysis, and sociological theory that will give you a foundation in sociological inquiry and will prepare you for more specialized study in your upper years. You will be exposed to social issues in traditional and contemporary societies, and you will develop your writing and critical thinking skills.

In your third year, you will begin to specialize in one of four areas that holds the most interest for you— 1) Health, Demography and Aging; 2) Social Stratification, Work and Labour Markets; 3) Science, Technology and Society; 4) Globalization, Development and Organizations. Within these four areas, you will examine topics like consumer culture, mass media, globalization, gender, health, and population change from a sociological perspective.

In fourth year, you will take seminar classes that typically have less than 20 students, which always encourages participation, the freedom to express yourself, and the opportunity for lively debate. You will also have the option of completing an honours thesis based on your specific interests in the field. This is great preparation should you choose to continue on to graduate studies.

Nipissing's Sociology faculty are skilled in their fields, and also have experience working outside of the university – including Statistics Canada, Corrections Canada, the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Employment and Social Development Canada, and more. By bringing their applied experience into the classroom, you will learn how sociological studies play a part in all work environments. Our faculty's areas of research specialization cover a wide range in topics like health, demography, aging, work and labour markets, globalization, and science, technology, and society. With such a wide range of specializations, you are bound to find courses and topics that match your interests.





## Certificate in Health Studies and Gerontology

If you are interested in learning more about population aging, an important trend affecting our society today, consider our Certificate in Health Studies and Gerontology. This certificate specializes in the economical, physiological, cultural, social, and spiritual aspects of aging, wellness, and illness. Your courses will include: Introduction to Social Gerontology; Health and the Family; Sociology of Medicine; Mental Disorder, Ageism; and issues in relation to Age, Health, and Work.

You will be well prepared to further your education in graduate studies or professional school, or for a variety of professions in the field of gerontology such as a health and medical personnel, social worker, nutritionist, occupational therapist, or business administrator.

## Master of Arts (MA) in Sociology – Applied Social Research

If you are interested in continuing your study in Applied Social Research in Sociology at Nipissing, you can apply for Master program in sociology at Nipissing after completing your undergraduate program.

The Master of Arts in Sociology program focuses on the application of social theories and research methodologies that assist with understanding and addressing social problems and development challenges in northern and rural communities, including First Nations and other Indigenous communities. Students can elect to complete the one-year Major Research Paper (MRP) or the two-year Thesis Research Project (TRP). Both MRP and

TRP students have the option of completing a 96-hour practicum component with a placement in a government, not-for-profit, or private agency.

## 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.

**TOP  
RATED**  
Survey Results



## How happy are you with your university education? (Excellent/Good)

First Year		Senior Year	
Queen's	99%	Queen's	89%
<b>NIPISSING</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>NIPISSING</b>	<b>88%</b>
Guelph	90%	Trent	88%
Trent	89%	Brock	86%
Laurier	88%	Queen's	86%
Western	88%	Western	86%
Waterloo	86%	Laurier	85%
McMaster	85%	McMaster	83%
Carleton	85%		

NSSE survey as published in Maclean's University Rankings 2014 (Ontario Universities)





## Where Can I Go From Here?

A degree in Sociology will give you many skills that you can use in different careers. You might launch a career in areas as diverse as social services, corrections, demographic research, social psychology, government, labour relations, human resources, healthcare, policing, community development, minister/clergy, and consulting to name just a few.

You might also continue on into a Master's degree or Doctorate in graduate school, or a professional program like teaching, law, MBA or MPA.

For further information visit: [www.nipissingu.ca/sociology](http://www.nipissingu.ca/sociology)

## Why Nipissing?

You will feel right 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 also benefit from small class sizes where you will have a name and a voice. Should you need help you will have access to our supportive professors, sometimes 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.

We encourage you to come and see for yourself why you belong at Nipissing.



ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

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