Program Description
Are you interested in issues concerned with crime and justice in today’s society? Do you want to learn more about criminal behaviour, its causes, and the policies in place to help prevent crime in the first place? The School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Nipissing examines the social, political, and economic factors that have played a part in shaping the criminal justice system from past to present.

At Nipissing you have the option to focus on one of our four streams: Policing, Corrections, Criminology or Criminal Justice Studies. Our flexible program is designed to give you a balanced combination of theory and practice. Through placements, projects, and research, you will have opportunities to work alongside criminal justice professionals.

Our Teaching Approach
Nipissing University prides itself on its personalized approach, and our program is no different. With an average of 40 students per class, you will participate in lots of meaningful discussions and receive plenty of individual attention.

Full-time faculty are academics who also have experience working outside of academia, while many of the part-time instructors are working in law, policing, and corrections.

You may also be eligible to learn from unique placements and research opportunities that will help you to integrate theory with practice. You will be encouraged to examine case studies, conduct research, and become involved within the system even before you graduate. These opportunities will give you a great competitive edge for your future career or further schooling.

Program and Faculty
All students complete a common core of courses in criminology, law, and research methods but can take electives from any stream.

Corrections Stream
If you choose to pursue the Corrections stream, you will earn a college diploma from Canadore College and a university degree from Nipissing University in just four years. At Canadore College you will study psychology, community re-integration, programming, and interviewing, and you will also complete a field placement. As a Corrections stream student, you will gain skills and knowledge in areas like administration, group dynamics, and counselling.

Policing Stream
As a student in the Policing stream, you will examine the criminal code, the young offenders system, and learn the skills and techniques you need for a successful career in policing. You will complete courses at both Nipissing University and Canadore College, and graduate with a college diploma and a university degree in just four years. Ethical reasoning and community policing are also key concepts in this stream.

Criminology Stream
In the Criminology stream, you will learn how to understand essential theories and methodologies used in the Criminology field. This stream gives you vital skills in communication, statistics, and analysis. We regularly offer courses in special topics like Women and the Criminal Justice System, and Youth in Conflict with the Law. Research Assistant opportunities with professors are available and offer you ways to deepen your knowledge and experience practical applications conducting in-depth research on issues in the Criminology field.

Below left: Guest speakers provide perspective and information to students on careers in the fields of Criminology and Criminal Justice.
Criminal Justice Studies Stream

In the Criminal Justice Studies stream, you will take a wide variety of courses that will give you broad knowledge of the Criminal Justice system. You will also take courses in Sociology and Psychology, and you will learn how they relate to the field of Criminal Justice. Our flexible placement program provides practical experience within the profession, including placements with jails, police services, victim services, and more. Research Assistant opportunities with professors are available and offer you ways to deepen your knowledge and experience practical applications conducting in-depth research on issues in the Criminal Justice field.

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.

Alpha Phi Sigma

In March 2011, Nipissing’s Criminal Justice program had the honour of becoming the first Canadian Chapter of the American National Criminal Justice Honor Society (ANCJHS), which recognizes academic excellence of undergraduate students of Criminal Justice, as well as Juris Doctorate students. The goals are to honour and promote academic excellence, community service, educational leadership, and unity. In the United States, there are now over 360 chapters. Nipissing’s chapter, Mu Kappa, strives to promote the goals of the ANCJHS through community service in conjunction with local Criminal Justice agencies. Nipissing students who have completed three Criminal Justice courses with an average over 75% will be invited to join Mu Kappa.

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, even outside of classroom hours.

Nipissing is focused on student success. So 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 all the great things Nipissing has to offer.
Where Can I Go From Here?

Because of our focus on blending theory with practice, and all the opportunities our students have to gain practical experience in the field, our graduates find employment very easily after graduation. Many have gone on to work with the Ministry of Correctional Services, the Ontario Provincial Police, RCMP the Canadian Antifraud Centre in various capacities. Some have become research and business analysts, correctional officers, police officers, or court liaison officers. Still others continue their education with law school, or graduate studies. Students may go on to Nipissing’s Master of Arts in Sociology – Applied Social Research, or other studies at the Master and Doctorate levels.

Find Out Why You Belong at Nipissing

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

For further information visit: www.nipissingu.ca/criminaljustice

“The small class sizes at Nipissing allow for student engagement that is simply not possible in much larger universities. Criminal Justice at Nipissing is also home to the first Canadian chapter of Alpha Phi Sigma – The National Criminal Justice Honor Society. I was fortunate enough to become a member of this prestigious honor society, an opportunity that is unique to Nipissing University.

“Before enrolling, my plan was to attain my BA and join the work force. However, after applying myself academically and growing strong relationships with the professors, I was able to discover my passion for research, increase my self-confidence and pursue graduate studies.”

Andrew Barton,
Criminal Justice Graduate