

NIPISSING

U N I V E R S I T Y

North Bay

www.nipissingu.ca

Geography



Program Descriptions

Geography is the interdisciplinary study of our world, its physical characteristics like water, landforms, vegetation and climate as well as the relationships between people and the environment. You can choose between one of our three Geography degree options. The Bachelor of Arts in Geography provides a solid foundation in physical and human geography with a focus on the cultural, economic, political, and social influences. The Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Geography concentrates on the causes and effects of various environmental issues. The Bachelor of Science in Environment and Physical Geography focuses on geography as an earth science and integrates mathematics, biology, geology, chemistry, and physics with geography-specific courses.

Our facilities include a state-of-the-art research wing and geomatics lab. Students collect and work with data, including digital maps, satellite imagery, and the most advanced geographic information systems (GIS) and remote sensing software. Where field research, soil, rock formation, water, and flora sampling are concerned, the campus location couldn't be more ideal. Situated within 291 hectares of Canadian Shield forest, amid a plethora of protected natural areas, parks, important historical sites, and fresh water systems, you will find yourself perfectly positioned to study with an amazingly diverse and outdoor lab right at your doorstep.

Our Teaching Approach

Our programs offer a great balance of applied and theoretical courses, which means you will learn fundamental principles and concepts from a variety of perspectives, and will also apply what you learn in class to real world experiences. You may also acquire valuable skills if you earn the opportunity to work as a summer research assistant with one of your professors. Projects range from snowmelt run-off and terrain analysis to the effect of global environmental change on the forest's ecosystem. One recent local research project involved setting up an environmental monitoring system in partnership with the Ministry the Environment to collect climatological data for the Ministry, including air and soil temperatures, and precipitation. You will also have access to excellent surveying and sampling opportunities right on campus, something not common at other institutions.

If you want to get involved beyond the classroom and meet other students with like interests, join the Geography Club. The club organizes social events, tutoring sessions, and various other activities.

Programs and Faculty

We offer three degree programs for students interested in pursuing Geography studies: a **Bachelor of Arts in Geography**, a **Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Geography**, or a **Bachelor of Science in Environment and Physical Geography**. The following program options are available for all three degrees:

- Honours Specialization
- Specialization
- Major

A minor in Geography is also available.

Bachelor of Arts in Geography

Our BA in Geography focuses on social and cultural geography, environmental management, as well as political and economic geography.

Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Geography

Our BA in Environmental Geography is similar to the BA in Geography, but with more focus on examining the causes and effects of various environment issues, including ecological degradation, climate change, pollution, and the utilization of our natural resources.

Bachelor of Science in Environment and Physical Geography

Our BSc is concerned with environmental and physical geography, including climatology, hydrology, geomorphology, biogeography, and geology. BSc students can choose to focus on one of these topics in upper years for a more concentrated stream of study.

In both the BA and BSc programs, your first and second year will focus on a core of courses that will help you build a strong foundation in Geography. You will take introductory courses in Human Geography, Physical Geography, Geomatics, Quantitative Methods, and more.

In upper years, you will be able to choose courses that reflect your particular interests. Classes become much smaller, allowing you to participate in interactive class discussions. You will have a wide variety





of courses to choose from — popular courses include “The Internal Structure of the City”, “Urban Health”, “Spatial Computing” and “A Geography of Eastern Europe” to name a few.

The Nipissing Geography department is one of the largest and oldest departments on campus. Our professors are very diverse, with special expertise in interesting areas like climate change, satellite image analysis, and cultural planning, to name a few. Because of that diversity, we offer many different courses to choose from, so you can tailor your degree to your interests.

Certificate in Environmental Management

If you are passionate about protecting the environment and learning about the impact that we humans have on it, consider our Certificate in Environmental Management.

You will gain a thorough understanding of strategies and techniques in environmental planning and management, and learn how social, economic, physical, and biological implications can play a part in resource decisions. Our courses blend theory and practical study to help you develop critical thinking, problem assessment and problem solving skills that will prepare you for graduate school or a future in the environmental field.

Certificate in Geomatics

If you are interested in studying the discipline of gathering, storing, analyzing, and visualizing geographic information, then consider our Certificate in Geomatics.

You will gain a strong background in global positioning systems (GPS), remote sensing, spatial mapping, and digital cartography; and use these skills to learn about our built environment. Geographic information is

used to create a detailed picture of the physical world and our place in it; this information can be transformed into data used for monitoring climate change, assisting in urban planning and real-estate development, and even recreating crime-scenes. The Certificate in Geomatics will prepare you for graduate school or a career in the fields of geomatics – surveying, mapping and GIS.

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.

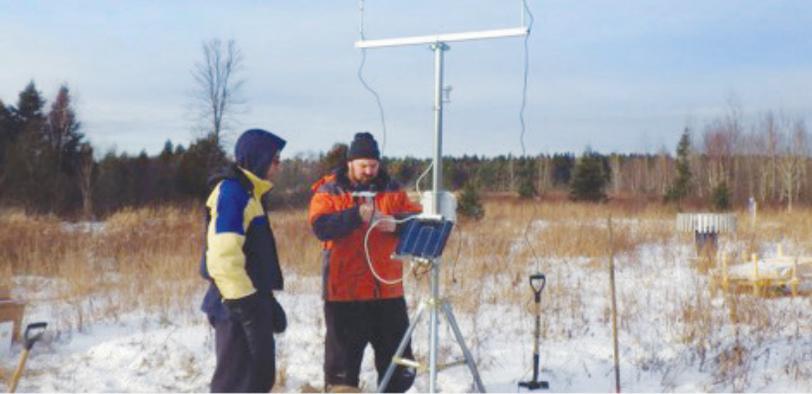
All professional learning opportunities are designed to support and supplement course content by broadening teaching/learning skills and by building your confidence and readiness for the teaching profession.



Generally I’m satisfied with the quality of teaching I have received (Strongly Agree/Agree)

NIPISSING	96%
Carleton	91%
Brock	90%
Waterloo	90%
Lakehead	88%
Laurier	88%
Ryerson	85%
York	82%

CUSC survey as published in Maclean's February 2014 (Ontario Universities)



Master of Environmental Studies and Master of Environmental Science Programs

If you are looking to further your education, have an interest in the environment and have already completed an undergraduate degree in any discipline, consider our Master of Environmental Studies (MES) or Master of Environmental Science (MESC) programs. Both programs take a unique interdisciplinary approach by integrating ideas and methodologies from the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences to explore and address environmental issues.

In both the MES and MESC programs, your core courses will include Perspectives on the Environment; Methods of Inquiry in Environmental Research; and Geomatics for MES/MESC Graduate Students. If you opt for the MES stream your elective courses will have a social science focus and include courses like Topics in the Environmental History of Land and Subsistence; and Integrated Watershed Management. If you choose the MESC stream your elective courses will have a focus on science and include Spatial Computing; Remote Sensing for Environmental Monitoring; and Topics in Forest Ecology and Management. The MES and MESC programs will prepare you for a future as an Environmental Professional or further study in PhD programs in Environmental Science, Geography, Hydrology, History, Biology, Forestry, Philosophy, Ecology or Education.

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 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.

Where Can I Go From Here?

As a large and diverse area of study, your career choices with a Geography degree are vast. You might eventually pursue work as an environmental consultant, urban and land use planner, climatologist, remote sensing scientist, economic development officer, water policy analyst and geographical information systems officer... just to name a few! Our students have also gone on to very successful careers with government agencies and private businesses as conservation officers, geomatic technicians, land use planners, policy advisors, and researchers.

Many students decide to continue onto graduate-level Masters and Doctorate degrees, while others enter professional schools like law and education.

For further information about our Geography programs visit:
www.nipissingu.ca/geography



ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

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