Master of Science in Kinesiology
Program Description

The MSc Kinesiology program is a research-intensive program with two options: a full-time (2 years) or a flex time (up to 4 years) program. Four courses are completed (research methods, statistics, seminar, and an elective in your area of research), as well as a thesis project. You will be admitted to the program with a specific thesis supervisor who will mentor you throughout your studies, and ultimately, most of your studies will be dedicated to completing your thesis research.

The MSc Kinesiology program is framed within a regional context, with an emphasis on issues that are specific to physical activity and health in Northeastern Ontario. This emphasis on research, teaching, and community engagement related to issues and populations in the North is unique to graduate programs within Ontario.

Based on the high faculty to student ratio, graduate students have the opportunity to work closely with faculty members and interact with research assistants; research staff; and postdoctoral trainees across areas of the program. In addition, there are opportunities to contribute to undergraduate education as a teaching assistant.

Research Areas

As a MSc Kinesiology student, you will work closely with innovative faculty to pursue research within your area of interest. Faculty expertise includes:

Biomechanics and Ergonomics

Choose from several areas, including clinical biomechanics, occupational biomechanics and ergonomics as well as sport and performance biomechanics. Specific research focuses of the faculty include: how movement changes with healthy aging and with declining function; work-related injuries of the wrist and hand; and bilateral asymmetry and effects on movement performance and efficiency. Our research incorporates the use of state-of-the-art equipment and techniques such as motion capture, force plates, surface and fine-wire electromyography, and computational modelling to better understand how people move and how muscles produce movement.

Exercise Physiology

Explore various factors related to exercise physiology. Specific research focuses of faculty include: temperature regulation, performance in extreme environments, regulation of cerebral blood flow, pulmonary oxygen uptake response to exercise, and heart rate variability, with a focus on cycling and running. Our research facilities include specialized equipment like the environmental chamber, and split-belt force-sensing treadmill.

Sensory Motor Behaviour

Investigate factors influencing movement control in typically developing people as well as those compromised by disorders, disease, or trauma. Specific research focuses of faculty include: visual control of upper limb movements, individual differences in motor control and execution, neurocognitive function, and the role of attention in sport-related concussion and safe driving. Our research incorporates motion capture, eye tracking, and EMG to explore motor control.

Behavioural Neuroscience

Explore a number of areas related to social, evolutionary, and experimental psychology as well as neuroscience. Faculty research interests include: exploration of factors underlying human aggression and competitive behaviour, as well as evolutionary influences on human mating, such as hormones, health-related factors, and competition.
Sport and Exercise Psychology

Explore several areas in sport and exercise psychology and physical education pedagogy. Faculty research interests include: coach development, psychological skill use among children, adolescents, and adults in sport, education, and other physical activity settings, physical literacy, teacher influences on physical activity, group dynamics, and positive youth development in sport. Our research incorporates state-of-the-art video recording and editing equipment for both field and lab-based studies.

Facilities

The School of Physical & Health Education offers the MSc Kinesiology program, in addition to the Bachelor of Physical and Health Education. Both programs are housed in the Centre for Physical & Health Education (CPHE). The CPHE has state-of-the-art labs, classrooms, and equipment that facilitate research, teaching, and physical activity through a holistic approach to learning and healthy living. Our graduate students have priority access to dedicated research space within the CPHE and may also take advantage of the interdisciplinary graduate student lounge to meet and collaborate with peers from other programs at Nipissing.

Why Nipissing?

As a MSc Kinesiology student, you will work closely with highly productive faculty who are actively engaged in cutting-edge research. This includes individualized guidance on your own research as well as opportunities to get involved in externally funded research projects on campus and within the larger North Bay community. Additional opportunities to collaborate with expert researchers at other institutions may also be available, facilitating valuable connections within academia and other sectors.

Studying in North Bay provides opportunities to work within diverse settings and with many populations. It is home to advanced health care facilities (e.g., One Kids Place, North Bay Regional Health Centre) several sport organizations that regularly produce high performance athletes and teams, and also provides access to industry in several sectors (e.g., mining, forestry, and farming).

Nipissing is ideal for outdoor physical activity enthusiasts. Situated on a stunning Canadian Shield escarpment above the city, the campus is ideally placed on 291 hectares of boreal forest and hosts a couple of ponds and a waterfall right outside the door. It also provides the perfect setting for hiking, mountain biking, and Nordic skiing. The North Bay area also boasts pristine lakes, the Laurentian Ski Hill, numerous hiking and bike paths that traverse the city, and access to modern sport facilities that meet the needs of year-round recreation.

Health Promotion and Behavioural Medicine

Focus on community-based health promotion or behavioural medicine. Faculty research interests include: community-based initiatives related to physical activity across the lifespan, healthy eating, Indigenous health, chronic disease prevention, and the role of physical activity among cancer survivors and chronic disease populations.

Sport Management

New area under development

Investigate key management questions that challenge practitioners in the areas of community sport, sport tourism, and professional sport. Specific research focus of faculty include: issues around gender in sport, recreational sport management, event host image, youth sport participation, sport and immigrant integrations, sport sponsorship, fan behaviour and promotional effectiveness in sport settings.

Why Nipissing?

As a MSc Kinesiology student, you will work closely with highly productive faculty who are actively engaged in cutting-edge research. This includes individualized guidance on your own research as well as opportunities to get involved in externally funded research projects on campus and within the larger North Bay community. Additional opportunities to collaborate with expert researchers at other institutions may also be available, facilitating valuable connections within academia and other sectors.

Studying in North Bay provides opportunities to work within diverse settings and with many populations. It is home to advanced health care facilities (e.g., One Kids Place, North Bay Regional Health Centre) several sport organizations that regularly produce high performance athletes and teams, and also provides access to industry in several sectors (e.g., mining, forestry, and farming).

Nipissing is ideal for outdoor physical activity enthusiasts. Situated on a stunning Canadian Shield escarpment above the city, the campus is ideally placed on 291 hectares of boreal forest and hosts a couple of ponds and a waterfall right outside the door. It also provides the perfect setting for hiking, mountain biking, and Nordic skiing. The North Bay area also boasts pristine lakes, the Laurentian Ski Hill, numerous hiking and bike paths that traverse the city, and access to modern sport facilities that meet the needs of year-round recreation.
Careers

MSc Kinesiology students may pursue a variety of career paths. These may include doctoral or post-graduate studies in Kinesiology and other health professions (e.g., medicine, public health, physiotherapy) and achieving advanced qualifications (e.g., Registered Kinesiologist, Certified Professional Ergonomist, Certified Exercise Physiologist, Certified Mental Performance Consultant). Graduates may also work as professionals in advanced research positions within a number of fields related to Kinesiology, such as: health promotion, rehabilitation, occupational health and safety, sport, fitness, and education.

Application & Deadlines

For information on deadlines and how to apply, visit our website at: www.nipissingu.ca/gradestudies

Financial Aid

Funding is available to graduate students from both internal and external sources. Internal funding includes teaching/research assistantships, faculty research grants, and Nipissing Graduate Scholarships. The value of these scholarships varies. Students are also encouraged to compete for scholarships from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), the Natural Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Ontario Graduate Scholarships (OGS), the Canada Graduate Scholarship, and the MacKenzie King Memorial Scholarship.

For more information on scholarships, visit: www.nipissingu.ca/gradfunding

Contact Information

Admissions – Office of the Registrar
Nipissing University
PO Box 5002, 100 College Drive, North Bay, ON P1B 8L7
Phone: 705-474-3450 ext. 4761
Email: admissions@nipissingu.ca

School of Graduate Studies
Phone: 705-474-3450 ext. 4292
Email: sgs@nipissingu.ca
www.nipissingu.ca/gradestudies

Graduate Program Coordinator
Email: GradKin@nipissingu.ca
www.nipissingu.ca/msckin