Everything is about power, from who runs our governments and makes our laws, to who ends up on TV or even in our families. It’s the invisible architecture of our world that creates privilege for some and oppression for others. If you want to change this world for the better, you have to know how it works.

The thread connecting our incredibly diverse courses—like Contagion, Queer Media, Animal Rites, International Human Rights and Prisons, Race and Gender—is power. No matter what you do for work, if you care about social justice, you need to understand how power works. This is a unique program which will teach you how to change the world you are actually living in.

Whether you are interested in culture and media, the institutionalization of power and inequality through law, prisons or colonialism, international human rights or environmental justice, GESJ is the place for you!

Register for Open House, book your own tour, or get more info at nipissingu.ca/futurestudents
Why Nipissing?

We are one of the most innovative social justice programs in Canada, where you have the chance to develop expertise in specific areas like media studies, law, international and Indigenous human rights, critical race theory and environmental justice.

In GESJ, you will learn the kind of concrete skills employers are looking for. We are committed to helping you learn how to apply critical analysis to problem solving—be it in the context of your personal life, social life, community or work. You will also develop skills in research, writing, argumentation, analysis and communication and you will gain the wide angle view you will need in order to be successful in analyzing issues in our fast-changing and diverse world.

We are an active and connected community of students and professors with strong links to local social justice organizations, many of which offer placements to our students.

GESJ contributes to two interdisciplinary minors—one in Human Rights and the other in Media, Representation and Social Justice.

GESJ is a great stand-alone degree, a minor that will enhance and develop your subject area expertise, or a complement to another major. Almost any degree will be enriched by a broader understanding of the kinds of issues that we examine in GESJ.

What does my first year look like?

GEND 1006, Introduction to Power, Gender and Justice offers students a taste of our three curriculum streams: Culture and Criticism; Power and Equality; and Human Rights and Social Justice.

We also offer GEND 1007 Special Topics intro courses including topics like Sex and Sport, Bromance, Human Trafficking and Sex Education.

Where Can I Go After Graduation?

GESJ is an interdisciplinary program that will allow you to explore a broad set of career options. You may choose to pursue a career as a researcher, administrator, lawyer, social worker, clinical counsellor, or policy analyst among other options.

You may decide to continue on to graduate studies in areas like Gender Studies, Social Justice Education or Social Work, or continue on to professional schools like Law and Education.