Bachelor of Arts
Child and Family Studies

Are you fascinated with how children grow and become healthy adults? Are you interested in making a meaningful difference by learning about children’s rights, determinants of health and social wellbeing, neurodevelopmental exceptionalities, applied behaviour analysis to improve individual outcomes, or policy and evaluation to improve human and social service outcomes?

Do you have an interest in supporting individuals, families, and communities? The Child and Family Studies (CHFS) program at Nipissing integrates theory, research, and meaningful experience gained through placements with partnering agencies, equipping students with the skills most sought across the human and social service sector. Our key strengths:

- Interdisciplinary faculty, sharing knowledge about individuals (Typical and Atypical Development Courses) within the context of families and communities (Social Justice Courses)
- Alignment with community and applied psychology with a focus on neurodevelopmental disabilities and intervention
- Alignment with social welfare and sociology with a focus on marginalized groups and individuals
- Integration of theory, applied research, and direct practicum/internship experience in community
- Access to applied certificates with a focus on applied research (PEAR certificate), and neurodevelopmental disabilities and applied behaviour analysis (ABA certificates)

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

top 3 in student satisfaction among primarily undergrad Ontario universities – Maclean’s 2020
Why Nipissing?

Integration of theory, research, and real-world experience provide the evidence-based knowledge and critical thinking necessary for meaningful impact in the lives of individuals and families; both through direct client and systems-level work. Highlights:

- **Interdisciplinary Perspectives**: Exposure to faculty from diverse backgrounds including psychology, sociology/social work, philosophy, political science, gender studies, and social welfare

- **Breadth**: Across topics such as children’s rights, adults and aging, development and neurodevelopmental disabilities, assessment and intervention, ethics, youth and social justice, colonialism, women and social welfare, and more

- **Specialization**: Certification in high demand fields, including Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) and Program Evaluation and Applied Research (PEAR), preparing students for multiple sectors including developmental, health and mental health, child welfare, education and classroom based behaviour for children with exceptionalities, justice, government, or private

- **Real World Value**: Up to 500 hours of experiential learning in community settings

- **Applied Research**: Preparing interested students for graduate studies and further specialization

What does my first year look like?

First year students will be exposed to interdisciplinary perspectives with access to courses in Psychology, Sociology, Child and Family Studies, and Academic Writing.

Where Can I Go After Graduation?

Our graduates pursue direct client service or program level roles, or post-graduate/professional paths.

**Client Level**: Positions working with typically developing learners, or those living with developmental disabilities, dual diagnoses, neurodevelopmental disorders, dementia and cognitive decline associated with aging, mental health issues, organic or acquired brain injury.

**Systems Level**: Positions involving systematic investigation and quality improvement of services, including program evaluation and outcomes management/support.

**Post-Graduate/Professional Schools**: MSW, Psychology, MEd Professional Education ABA Specialization, MA Disability Studies, MA Counselling.

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