Indigenous Studies offers you an opportunity to learn about Indigenous cultures, philosophies, literature, histories and contemporary issues that are central to this land that we live in. Its multidisciplinary approach reflects the holistic understandings of mino bimaadsiwin, so your studies will include the physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual aspects that are needed for true learning according to Indigenous thought.

Built upon traditional First Nations land and with a number of First Nations communities in the area, North Bay and Nipissing University are significant centres of Indigenous influence and activity. It would be challenging to find a more appropriate or ideal place than Nipissing to study and engage with a diversity of Indigenous cultures, communities and organizations. Our program strives to achieve a balance between social science and humanities approaches for the study and enrichment of Indigenous communities and cultures.

Our Indigenous Studies program welcomes both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students in an inclusive, side-by-side learning environment. Our program assists our students with accumulating a comprehensive academic foundation in writing and critical thinking skills, and emphasizes hands-on experiential learning with both the urban and rural Indigenous communities in the area.
Why Nipissing?
By studying at Nipissing, you will get a first rate academic experience and will be immersed in local Indigenous communities. You will have access to, and learn from many Indigenous organizations and services in the North Bay area including the North Bay Métis Council and the North Bay Indian Friendship Centre. You will also meet elders, access a wide range of resources, and participate in and learn from many community activities and events such as Indigenous ceremonies and pow-wows.

Our growing Indigenous Studies program remains close-knit with small class sizes. This gives you great access to one-on-one help from professors and creates a community atmosphere which allows for thorough discussion and engagement with the subjects.

Our Office of Indigenous Initiatives (Enji giigdoyang) is available to help you transition smoothly into the university system with many useful services at your fingertips such as tutoring and counseling. It will also connect you with interactive activities, guest speakers and elders. You will find plenty of support and opportunities to make new friends.

What does my first year look like?
Our first-year courses are designed with the four keys to learning in mind: physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual. In your first-year, you will also have many opportunities for connecting with, participating in, and learning first hand from diverse local Indigenous sources.

Where Can I Go After Graduation?
With a strong base of transferable skills in writing, research, and critical thinking, you will find that an Indigenous Studies degree gives you a wide variety of career options to choose from. You may pursue careers in areas such as policy development, politics, social work, consulting, journalism, and much more. You may also continue your studies in Master and Doctorate-level programs or professional schools like law or teaching. Your knowledge of Indigenous studies and well-developed cultural sensitivity will be highly valued by all employers.