Sociology is the study of human social relationships across time and space. These social interactions can be as small as strangers avoiding each other in a crowded room, or as large as nation-states attempting to solve environmental problems. It is about comprehending the social conditions that give rise to both conflict and consensus; sudden change and prolonged social stability.

As active researchers and engaged teachers, we show students how to utilize various levels of analysis to better understand how social identity and human social processes both shape and are shaped by cultural currents and wider structural dynamics.

The Master of Arts (MA) in Sociology – Applied Social Research at Nipissing University is an applied social research degree focusing on the application of social theories and research methodologies that assist with understanding and addressing institutions, human interaction, social change, social inequality, social movements and social problems. The program brings together faculty expertise in applied sociology, health and population studies, gerontology, anthropology, science and environmental studies, social psychology, criminology and criminal justice, and will appeal to those with interests from across a broad range of social science and health studies disciplines.

With a curriculum that emphasizes research-intensive courses and provides a strong grounding in social theory and quantitative and qualitative research methods, the program enables students to hone their academic and professional skills. Many of our students have secured significant research funding, have obtained employment in relevant fields upon graduation or have transitioned into more advanced studies in sociology, social psychology, anthropology and criminology at the doctoral level. The program also provides the opportunity for students to gain hands-on work experience by completing a practicum placement with one of our diverse community and government agency partners.
Why Nipissing?
The MA in Sociology – Applied Social Research program at Nipissing is a unique master’s degree that focuses on providing an academic background, applied research skills and evaluation competencies that are required to effectively analyze and report on diverse social, cultural, psychological, developmental, environmental, health, legal and social justice issues.

The Statistics Canada Research Data Centre (RDC) – the only such facility in Northern Ontario – provides students with access to micro-level data from Canadian census and surveys. The Department of Sociology and Anthropology also has a faculty member holding a Canada Research Chair in Life Course Transitions in Northern & Rural Communities.

The Sociology Lab provides students with various statistical and data management software to analyze public-use microdata and census data and organize qualitative data for their research projects and theses.

Students have the option of completing their program in either the one-year Major Research Paper (MRP), or the two-year Thesis.

Where Can I Go After Graduation?
The Nipissing University MA in Sociology – Applied Social Research degree will provide students with the experience to work in a wide variety of occupations and fields where research, analysis and interpretation skills are required.

Graduates of the program have used their skills in policy studies and evaluation to find work in government or in not-for-profit and private sector organizations. Many have found rewarding careers as public servants, research analysts, focus group facilitators, social epidemiologists, demographers, or as police, customs, military and probation officers.

In addition, graduates of this program are candidates for more advanced studies at the doctoral level in sociology, social psychology, anthropology, criminology and related fields.

Application & Deadlines
For information on deadlines and how to apply, visit our website at:
www.nipissingu.ca/graduatestudies

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

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