

MASTER OF ARTS IN SOCIOLOGY

2026 SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS

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 health and population studies, anthropology, environmental studies, social psychology, social development, criminology and childhood and family studies. Our program appeals to those with interests from across a broad range of social science and health studies disciplines.

Streams/Specializations - Students have the option of completing either the Major Research Paper (MRP) route, or the thesis route. The MRP route is available as a one-year (3 term/12 months) full-time program, or a three-year (1 year/12 months + 6 flex terms/24 months) flex-time program. The thesis route is available as a two-year (6 term/24 months) full-time program, or a four-year (2 years/24 months + 6 flex terms/24 months) flex-time program. Please refer to the Graduate Studies website for more information regarding the MRP route and thesis route.

For further information regarding the Master of Arts in Sociology program, please visit www.nipissingu.ca/masociology.

Program related questions can be directed to the Graduate Program Coordinator at gradsoc@nipissingu.ca.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 15, 2026* - for scholarship consideration.
SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENTATION DEADLINE: January 22, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. EST

Applications received after the application deadline date will not be considered for scholarships. Flex-time applicants are not eligible for funding consideration. For questions pertaining to scholarship criteria, please contact sgs@nipissingu.ca.

Applications will continue to be accepted after January 15, 2026, and documentation after January 22, 2026. Late applications will be considered if room remains in the program; funding consideration is not available for late applications or late documentation. Contact internationaladmiss@nipissingu.ca to verify if late applications are still being accepted.*

*** Unless otherwise specified, late applications, application fees and documentation must be submitted no later than May 15, 2026.*

DOCUMENT SUBMISSION:

All supplemental documents will be uploaded to your application on the Nipissing International Admissions portal. Included with the description of each document requirement below will be information on what to select under **Program Specific Document Requirements** when uploading your documents.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Applicants must hold an Honours Baccalaureate degree in Sociology or a related field (e.g., Anthropology, Criminology or Criminal Justice) and at least a 75% average (Canadian equivalent) on the last ten full (20 semester) courses completed at the time of application to be considered for admission.

NOTE: Non-Academic course grades (e.g. Bachelor of Education, Practical courses, clinical courses, Co-op courses, Placements, etc.) are not used in the calculation of admission averages.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENTATION: (Due January 22, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. EST)

Please submit transcripts, letters of reference and other supporting documentation after you have submitted your online application.

1. Online application fee

The online application can be accessed from our website: www.nipissingu.ca/applyintl. The application fee will be paid online through the application.

2. Transcripts

Official undergraduate and graduate transcripts from all institutions attended, including those attended on a Letter of Permission or exchange program. High School or College (diploma programs) transcripts are not required. Transcripts and other appropriate academic documents should be uploaded in the Nipissing International Admissions portal under each institution declared on your application.

3. Confidential Recommendations

Two (2) confidential academic recommendations from professors **OR** other appropriate professionals who can speak to the candidate's level of preparation and readiness for graduate studies. References must be from someone qualified to address the academic ability and competence of the applicant to undertake graduate studies. References cannot be completed by anyone who is personally related to the applicant. Recommendations are to be confidential; therefore, **they must be mailed in sealed envelopes with the referee's signature over the seal or emailed by the referee using their professional email address and sent directly to internationaladmiss@nipissingu.ca**. The Confidential Recommendation forms are included in this package. **Please indicate to your referee that a current comprehensive letter (written specifically for the purposes of the application to Graduate Studies at Nipissing) included with the recommendation form will be most beneficial in determining your eligibility for admission.**

4. Sample of written work

The sample should demonstrate your research, writing, and analytical skills. A class paper you are proud of is an excellent choice; other types of writing that demonstrate your skills will also work. **Select Sample of Written Work under Program Specific Document Requirements when uploading your document.**

5. Resume

A **comprehensive** résumé detailing your educational and professional experience. Please include scholarships and awards, significant academic accomplishments, internships, research projects, involvement in student organizations, volunteer work and publications and presentations. **Select Resume/CV under Program Specific Document Requirements when uploading your document.**

6. Statement of Interest

A typed Statement of Interest providing the following information:

- Your research area(s) of interest for your Major Research Paper (MRP) or Thesis.
- **Which faculty member(s) you would like to complete your MRP or thesis with and include details of your current research interests within your specific research area(s). Please visit www.nipissingu.ca/masociology for a list and contact information of potential Faculty Advisor.**

The final admission decision will be based on the availability of an appropriate supervisor.

Select Statement of Interest under Program Specific Document Requirements when uploading your document.

7. Supervisors

The program admissions committee considers whether there is a faculty member who can supervise your research as part of their decision-making process. Prior to submitting your application, you should review the [list of the MA Sociology faculty members](#). It is strongly encouraged that you contact your top choices for supervisor(s) in advance of submitting your application to inquire whether they are accepting new graduate students for the next academic year and to discuss your specific research interests. To submit an application with a stronger chance of being considered for admissions, please provide information in your statement of interest about what specific area or topic(s) you would like to focus on in your research and identify potential supervisor(s).

8. English Language Proficiency

Proof of Proficiency in English for internationally educated applicants whose first language is not English, also due by the application deadline. Nipissing University accepts the following tests as proof of proficiency in English:

English Proficiency Test	Minimum Scores
IELTS	6.5 – No bands less than 6.5
TOEFL IBT	93 with a minimum score of 20 in reading and listening and a minimum score of 22 in writing and speaking
PTE – Pearson Test of Academic English	63 with a minimum score of 60 in each section
CAE – Cambridge Assessment English	C1 minimum overall score of 176 with a minimum score of 169
CAEL/CAEL Online – Canadian Academic English Language	70 with no band less than 60

The required minimum scores must be submitted before the candidate can be considered for admission. Duolingo is not accepted.

You will upload your results under the Test Score section of your application in the Nipissing International Admissions portal.

9. Scholarship and Funding Opportunities:

Ontario Graduate Scholarship

- Applications for the Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) can be found at www.nipissingu.ca/ogs.
- The OGS application is due January 15, 2026, and is to be submitted electronically to the Graduate Studies Department at sgs@nipissingu.ca.
- The OGS application requires two Academic Assessment Reports with an academic reference for each. The reference forms in the OGS application are different than the references required for the admission application. Should you choose the same academic referees for both the OGS application and the admission application, your referees will be required to fill out both the admission reference form and the OGS academic reference and attach a separate letter to each form. Your referees should make note of what is to be addressed for each reference.
- For questions pertaining to scholarship criteria, please contact sgs@nipissingu.ca or 705-474-3450 ext. 4292.

Other Funding Opportunities

- Visit www.nipissingu.ca/gradfunding to learn more about internal and external funding opportunities, Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Graduate Research Assistantship, and other potential funding/award sources. Please note that some may have earlier deadlines.

Applicant: Please complete this section before presenting to referee

Name of Applicant:

Surname	First	Middle	Student # or OUAC Ref. #
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Referee: We would appreciate your appraisal of the above applicant for a Master's degree in the field of Sociology. The information in the report will be considered confidential.

- How long have you known the applicant? (MM/YY) From: _____ to _____
- In what capacity? _____
- Indicate with an 'X' your evaluation of this applicant with respect to their ability to complete a graduate program in the field of Sociology:

	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	No Basis for Comment
Intellectual Capacity	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Scholarly Potential	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Originality	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Critical Judgment	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Oral Expression	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Written Expression	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Work Habits	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Perseverance	<input type="checkbox"/>					

- In comparison with other students at the applicant's level, indicate where you would place this applicant.
 Among the top 5% 10% 25% 50% lower than 50%

- Please attach a current letter of reference which speaks to the candidate's strengths, or any concerns you may have with their ability to succeed at the Masters level. This letter will be used for admission purposes and scholarship consideration. A comprehensive letter will be most beneficial in determining the applicant's eligibility.

To the Referee:

This Recommendation is confidential. Please enclose this form and supporting letter in a sealed envelope and write your signature over the seal. You can either return the envelope to the applicant to submit with their application or email the documents directly to the International Admissions Office, sent from your professional email account to internationaladmiss@nipissingu.ca.

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Faculty: _____

Address: _____

Position: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email address: _____

