



Social Sciences

Anthropology

Criminology

Geography

Political Science

Psychology

Sociology

Women's Studies

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to NIC's Social Sciences Department.

The Social Sciences are about asking the big questions. Why are societies and countries organized the way they are? Why do we have states and governments? How can we better understand each other and influence change to make the world a better place?

You'll learn how to collect and analyze data, explore what influences human behaviour, how past societies operated and how it influences us today.

Our expert faculty teaching Psychology, Sociology, Political Science, Anthropology, Geography and Criminology are passionate about teaching and sharing their knowledge and real world experiences with you. They will also support you as you develop strong critical thinking and research skills that will serve you through your academic journey and into your career.

Please reach out if you have any questions on where the social sciences can take you.

- Alix Carrel, Department Chair, English, Humanities & Social Science

NIC has been the best experience that I've had in my schooling. My instructors were amazing. They opened my eyes to new ways of thinking and how to approach the world.

MEGAN BORLAND
NIC CRIMINOLOGY ALUMNA





SOCIAL SCIENCE DISCIPLINES

NIC offers a wide range of university courses that transfer to universities across BC and beyond. With an average class size of 18, supportive, teaching-focused faculty, and personalized education, you will be fully prepared for university and career success.

ANTHROPOLOGY

The study of humans in the past and present, anthropologists look at human behaviour and societies to find answers to how early humans lived, why we behave the way we do in the present and how that could impact our future. Cultural anthropology looks at topics such as linguistics, society, religion and politics, while physical anthropology includes the subfields of archaeology and forensic anthropology, exploring culture through the examination of physical remains

Did you know?

NIC students visit archaeological sites, learning language, culture and history in annual field schools. In 2015 and 2016, they travelled to Greece to explore ancient Minoan civilization.

Contact Jennifer Botica, PhD
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CRIMINOLOGY

Criminology involves the study of crime, criminal behaviour and responses to law-breaking. The principle elements of criminology are social science theory, institutional and systems impacts and research methods that explore all aspects of crime, criminal behaviour and justice issues.

Studying criminology is the first step toward careers in the criminal justice system or related fields, such as immigration, insurance adjuster and youth court worker.

Did you know?

Every semester, NIC students participate in mock trials and visit court rooms, prisons and community organizations to learn fundamental principles of criminal law and corrections.

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GEOGRAPHY

Geography is a broad discipline that integrates knowledge from a wide variety of fields to make sense of the world. Geographers study both the human and physical features of Earth and although they view the world from many different perspectives, the spatial and ecological perspectives are at the core of the discipline.

Studying geography prepares you for work in a variety of physical and social sciences and the humanities. Some examples of the many and varied career options for geographers include: environmental researcher, spatial data analyst, medical geographer, heritage interpreter, park naturalist, urban or community

planner, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) specialist, climatologist, hydrologist, forestry technician, resource management specialist and sustainable tourism specialist.

Did you know?

NIC students have taken part in hands-on, primary research to examine social, economic, political and ethical perspectives on climate change.

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POLITICAL SCIENCE

Political science is a social science which looks at the systems and practice of politics, including governance, political activities, thoughts and behaviours, institutions and power structures. The study of political science includes law and public policy, international relations, the administration of justice and the electoral process.

With a focus on critical thinking and analysis, political science is essential for careers in government and public policy, and is beneficial in a variety of fields including law, market and social research and public affairs.

Did you know?

Political scientists study how governments and political systems

work. Many become educators or work as consultants for lobbying groups, non-profit organizations and government agencies.

Contact Antonie Scholtz, PhD
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HANDS-ON RESEARCH

Be well-prepared for university with opportunities to participate in applied research activities that explore real-world issues and solve practical problems.

PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology is the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes and how they are affected by an organism's physical state, mental state, and social context.

Psychology is an essential subject for virtually all disciplines. Studying psychology is necessary if you are considering becoming a psychologist, but is also helpful for careers that involve working with and understanding people, including human resources, business, social work, law enforcement or health care.

Did you know?

In 2015, 100 NIC psychology students used applied research skills to study public perceptions on the validity of climate change.

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Contact Yiling Chow, MA
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SOCIOLOGY

Sociology is the study of society, including culture and social relationships. Sociology encourages you to think more deeply about the relationship between personal and public issues. It looks at social institutions and the system in which we, as individuals, live and how those institutions influence individuals and vice versa.

Studying sociology develops your critical thinking and research skills and is beneficial if you're looking for a career in human resources, counselling, social work, education or research.

Did you know?

Students participate in activities and simulations in both the classroom and the community to learn sociological concepts first-hand.

Contact Jen Wrye, PhD
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GO GLOBAL

Travel the world while you study and earn credit. NIC offers study abroad opportunities in close to 50 countries, both short and long term. There is also financial support available to help you get international experience and take your learning to a new level.

FLEXIBLE STUDY OPTIONS

Study on-campus or digitally. NIC offers a range of delivery methods to suit your schedule.

WOMEN'S STUDIES

Women's studies is an interdisciplinary field which looks at the political, economic, socio-cultural and historical issues, as they relate to women and gender. Through an examination of women's experiences and a feminist lens, students explore topics such as gender identity, power dynamics, systems of privilege and oppression and health issues.

Women's and gender studies are helpful if you are considering a career in advocacy or social service related positions, education, law, health care, business, non-profit sectors and government.

Did you know?

Students and faculty come together every March as part of International Women's Day to celebrate all that women have accomplished.

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START YOUR UNIVERSITY DEGREE WITH THE NIC ADVANTAGE:

2 years	
University Courses	1-2 years
Certificate	1 year
Diploma	2 years
Associate Degree	2 years



2 years		
 VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY	 University of Victoria	
 THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY	 UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA	 SFU SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
 Royal Roads UNIVERSITY	 CAMOSUN COLLEGE	
and many more across Canada and internationally		

= Bachelor Degree 

START UNIVERSITY AT NIC

With a wide range of study areas, small class sizes, expert instructors and exclusive transfer agreements, NIC is the perfect place for you to start your studies.

Be advised, every step of the way

Our educational advising team has extensive knowledge of programs, funding options, career paths and post-secondary education pathways at NIC and beyond.

Transfer seamlessly to university

Complete a two-year associate degree at NIC and graduate with a credential that is fully transferable to university.

Prepare for success

Develop university research skills and gain the confidence and skills to do well in university. With our small class sizes, supportive instructors, and competitive tuition, you'll be better prepared for university success.

Get started in high school - Dual Credit

Dual credit is an opportunity for high school students to begin post-secondary programs and courses while they are still in high school.

Most dual credit students are Grade 12 students that take a program or course in their second semester (February) of their Grade 12 year.

Learn more: www.nic.bc.ca/dual-credit

NIC shaped me as a learner. It molded me into an academic who strives for excellence and questions the world we live in; it has been instrumental to my success.

SYLVA FALK

NIC UNIVERSITY STUDIES GRAD



LEARN FROM EXPERT FACULTY



JENNIFER BOTICA

PHD, ARCHAEOLOGY
MA, NEAR EASTERN ARCHAEOLOGY



GERI BEMISTER

MA, CRIMINOLOGY



ANTONIE SCHOLTZ

PHD, SOCIOLOGY AND EQUITY
STUDIES



RICHELLE GARDINER-HYNDSES

MA, INTEGRATED STUDIES



YILING CHOW

MA, EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

These are just a few of NIC's faculty, all of whom are accessible, approachable and focused on student success. Read their full profiles at www.nic.bc.ca/about-us/nic-faculty

1-800-715-0914 | futurestudents@nic.bc.ca
www.nic.bc.ca/social-sciences

For more information or to further discuss your educational goals, please book an appointment with an Educational Advisor.

Information is accurate at time of printing. The most up-to-date information is available at www.nic.bc.ca.

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