



3-Minute Thesis Competition: Successful Research Communication to a Broad Audience

Official Rules

(<https://threeminutethesis.uq.edu.au/resources/competition-rules>)

- A single static PowerPoint slide is permitted. No slide transitions, animations or 'movement' of any description are allowed. The slide is to be presented from the beginning of the oration.
- No additional electronic media (e.g. sound and video files) are permitted.
- No additional props (e.g. costumes, musical instruments, laboratory equipment) are permitted.
- Presentations are limited to 3 minutes maximum and competitors exceeding 3 minutes are disqualified.
- Presentations are to be spoken word (e.g. no poems, raps or songs).
- Presentations are to commence from the stage.
- Presentations are considered to have commenced when a presenter starts their presentation through either movement or speech.
- The decision of the adjudicating panel is final.

Judging Criteria

The competitors will be scored based on the 3MT presentations and the clarity of their communications.

(<https://threeminutethesis.uq.edu.au/resources/judging-criteria>)

- Comprehension and content
 - Did the presentation provide an understanding of the background and significance to the research question being addressed, while explaining terminology and avoiding jargon?
 - Did the presentation clearly describe the impact and/or results of the research, including conclusions and outcomes?
 - Did the presentation follow a clear and logical sequence?
 - Was the thesis topic, research significance, results/impact and outcomes communicated in language appropriate to a non-specialist audience?
 - Did the presenter spend adequate time on each element of their presentation - or did they elaborate for too long on one aspect or was the presentation rushed?
- Engagement and communication
 - Did the oration make the audience want to know more?
 - Was the presenter careful not to trivialize or generalize their research?
 - Did the presenter convey enthusiasm for their research?
 - Did the presenter capture and maintain their audience's attention?
 - Did the speaker have sufficient stage presence, eye contact and vocal range; maintain a steady pace, and have a confident stance?
 - Did the PowerPoint slide enhance the presentation - was it clear, legible, and concise?

The participants are also encouraged to look at the winners of previous 3MT events elsewhere as examples (<https://threeminutethesis.uq.edu.au/watch-3mt>). Additional FAQ for 3MT can be found at:

<https://threeminutethesis.uq.edu.au/resources/faqs-competitors>.