

# 3 MINUTES TO BE *bold.*

## Three Minute Thesis Competition (3MT®)

*An 80,000 word thesis would take 9 hours to present. Their time limit...3 minutes.*

## *You're Invited!*

***Vote for People's Choice — Door Prizes***  
***Refreshments — Support graduate research***

### WHAT IS 3MT®?

The 3MT® competition celebrates the exciting research conducted by graduate students. Developed by The University of Queensland (UQ), the exercise cultivates students' academic, presentation, and research communication skills. The competition supports their capacity to effectively explain their research in three minutes, in language appropriate to a non-specialist audience.

### AWARDS

#### Championship

- \$2,500.** Championship Winner
- \$1,500.** First Runner-Up
- \$1,500.** People's Choice
- \$1,000.** Second Runner-Up

#### Heats

- \$1,000.** Heat Winner
- \$500.** First Runner-Up
- \$500.** People's Choice
- \$250.** Second Runner-Up

### 3MT Preliminary Heats

#### EVENT DETAILS

##### Monday, October 26

Majestic Palm, Student Union  
Boca Raton campus  
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

##### Monday, October 26

Majestic Palm, Student Union  
Boca Raton campus  
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

##### Tuesday, October 27

Majestic Palm, Student Union  
Boca Raton campus  
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

##### Tuesday, October 27

Majestic Palm, Student Union  
Boca Raton Campus  
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

### 3MT Championship

**Date:** Wednesday, October 28, 2026

**Time:** 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**Location:** Lifelong Learning Institute, Boca Raton  
Campus



To learn more or to get involved, email [3mt@fau.edu](mailto:3mt@fau.edu),

visit the 3MT website: [www.fau.edu/graduate/news-events/three-minute-thesis/](http://www.fau.edu/graduate/news-events/three-minute-thesis/)

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## COACH

We are seeking faculty, staff, and other professionals willing to serve as (individual and/or group) coaches who have experience with public speaking and student mentoring.

## VOLUNTEER

FAU's 3MT® event will greatly benefit from your help. Volunteer opportunities are available in a variety of areas throughout the Fall 2026 semester as well as for event day logistics during Preliminary Heats and the Final Championship.

## 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 (i.e. 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

### Comprehension and Content

- Did the presentation provide an understanding of the background to the research question being addressed and its significance?
- Did the presentation clearly describe the key results of the research including conclusions and outcomes?
- Did the presentation follow a clear and logical sequence?
- Was the thesis topic, key results and research significance and outcomes communicated in language appropriate to a non-specialist audience?
- Did the speaker avoid scientific jargon, explain terminology and provide adequate background information to illustrate points?
- 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?

## Contact Us:

3MT@fau.edu

[www.fau.edu/graduate/news-events/three-minute-thesis/](http://www.fau.edu/graduate/news-events/three-minute-thesis/)