

INVITATION

College of Graduate Studies

School of Interdisciplinary Research & Graduate Studies (SIRGS)



THREE MINUTE THESIS COMPETITION



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition is an annual research contest held by more than 900 universities around the world.

It is a research communication competition developed by the University of Queensland in Australia whereby doctoral students are provided with three minutes to present their research. The competition cultivates academic, presentation and research communication skills in postgraduate students. Furthermore, it challenges the research postgraduate students to communicate the significance of their projects and results in just three minutes and in a language appropriate to an intelligent but non-specialist audience.

All eligible students will participate at the institutional level. The 3MT national competition will be hosted by the University of Free State on 24 October 2025. For students to participate in the National 3MT they should have participated at the institutional level. The institutional winner and runner-up are eligible for representation at the national level.

ELIGIBILITY

- Only UNISA registered doctoral candidates who have successfully passed their proposal module and submitted the intention to submit form by the date of their first presentation (final writing up of thesis submission) are eligible to participate in the 3MT competition.
- Students who are staff members at their institution but registered with a different university for their postgraduate studies. They present according to their registration. (Unisans registered for doctoral qualification with UNISA do not qualify).
- PhD graduates are not eligible.
- Note: Confirmation of the supervisor will be sought for all candidates.

RULES

- Only a single static PowerPoint slide is permitted.
- No slide transitions, animations or movement of any description are allowed.
- The slide should 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 three minutes maximum and competitors exceeding 3 minutes are disqualified.
- Presentations should be spoken words (e.g., no poems, raps or songs).
- Presentations should 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.

If you are interested and comply based on the eligibility to participate in the 3MT, you may apply to be trained by submitting a one page abstract. You qualify to participate only once. You can email your name, student number, proof of registration and supervisor email address to: browna@unisa.ac.za. Clearly mark email heading '3minute theses'. The students with the best abstracts will be invited for training on how to do oral presentation in three minutes.

ENQUIRIES

Prof Anthony Brown
browna@unisa.ac.za

DUE DATE: Friday, 1 August 2025



Define tomorrow.

UNISA

