

UNIVERSITI MALAYA THREE MINUTE THESIS, 2025 – UNIVERSITY LEVEL

COMPETITION RULES & GUIDELINES

UM3MT

1. The UM3MT competition celebrates the exciting research the Doctor of Philosophy conducted.
2. Developed by the University of Queensland, UM3MT cultivates students' academic, presentation, and research communication skills.
3. The UM3MT competition provides an excellent platform for research students to exercise their communication and research skills through a three-minute presentation.
4. The competition supports students' capacity to effectively explain their research in a language that is comprehensible to a non-specialist audience.

The purpose of this competition includes:

1. Skills development for research candidates:

Participating in UM3MT develops academic, presentation, and research communication skills while enhancing candidates' ability to effectively explain their research in a language appropriate to a non-specialist audience.

2. Building research culture in universities:

UM3MT provides a valuable opportunity for HDR candidates to come together (live or virtually), get to know one another and talk about their research. It also provides a supportive environment where schools, institutes and universities can offer presentation skills training.

3. Building external relations for the university:

UM3MT winners will go on to represent faculty at university three-minute thesis (3MT) competitions, which provide an excellent networking and professional development opportunity. Previous UM3MT finalists have benefited from invitations to various other networking events following their participation in the competition.

Date of event:

Faculty level: 11-30 April 2025

University level: 7 May 2025 (Wednesday)

National level: 19 June 2025

Virtual Rules and Regulations:

- ✓ Video presentations are limited to 3 minutes and videos exceeding 3 minutes are disqualified.
- ✓ Presentations are considered to have commenced when a presenter starts their presentation through speech (timing does not include the UM3MT title slide and commences from when the competitor starts speaking, not the start of the video).
- ✓ Videos must meet the following criteria:
 - Filmed on the **horizontal**;
 - Filmed on a **plain background**;
 - Filmed from a **static** position;
 - Filmed from **one camera angle**;
 - Contain a UM3MT title slide (at the beginning);
 - Contain a UM3MT PowerPoint slide (top right corner/right side/cut to)

- ✓ A single static PowerPoint slide is permitted in the presentation (No slide transitions, animations or 'movement' of any description are allowed). This can be visible continuously, or 'cut to' (as many times as you like) for a maximum of 1 minute or submitted via email if not included in the presentation.
- ✓ The 3 minute audio must be continuous – no sound edits or breaks.
- ✓ No additional props (e.g. costumes, musical instruments, laboratory equipment and animated backgrounds) are permitted.
- ✓ Presentations are to be spoken word (e.g. no poems, raps or songs).
- ✓ No additional electronic media (e.g. sound and video files) are permitted within the video recording.
- ✓ The decision of the adjudicating panel is final.
- ✓ Submissions via video format (only video link provided to Event Coordinators are allowed). Files sent in other formats will not be accepted.
- ✓ Competitors should submit their videos directly to Academy/Faculty/Institute.

Judging Criteria's:

1. Presentations should include:
 - a) Why is your research important?
 - b) What have you done to address the research question?
 - c) What long-term outcomes are you anticipating?
2. The judging panel will be looking for:
 - a) Comprehension Contents**
 - i. Did the presentation provide an understanding of the background and significance to the research question being addressed while explaining terminology and avoiding jargon?
 - ii. Did the presentation clearly describe the impact and key results of the research, including conclusions and outcomes?
 - iii. Did the presentation follow a clear and logical sequence?
 - iv. Was the thesis topic, research significance, results/impact and outcomes communicated in language appropriate to a non-specialist audience?
 - v. 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?
 - b) Engagement & Communication**
 - i. Did the oration make the audience want to know more?
 - ii. Was the presenter careful not to trivialize or generalize their research?
 - iii. Did the presenter convey enthusiasm for their research?
 - iv. Did the presenter capture and maintain their audience's attention?
 - v. Did the speaker have sufficient stage presence, eye contact and vocal range; maintain a steady pace, and have a confident stance?
 - vi. Did the PowerPoint slide enhance the presentation - was it clear, legible, and concise?

Prizes:

- First place: RM2000.00 + Certificate
- Second place: RM1000.00 + Certificate
- Third place: RM500.00 + Certificate

