What is the 3-Minute Thesis?

The 3-Minute Thesis – or 3MT for short – was established by the University of Queensland in 2008 as an opportunity for postgraduate students to cultivate their academic, presentation and communicative skills by giving a 3-minute talk on their doctoral research using non-specialist language. The first 3MT competition was held in 2008; by now such competitions are held at over 900 universities across more than 85 countries worldwide.

Corvinus Doctoral Schools will be hosting the 3MT competition on the **6th of March 2025.** The competition will take place as part of the annual PhD Café, between 14:15-15:45 pm.

Who can participate in the competition?

The competition is open to all Corvinus doctoral students or candidates who have completed the comprehensive exam – i.e., have research results to share – but haven't yet defended their final thesis.

What do I need to do?

Your task is to give an effective, **3-minute talk about your doctoral research** in non-specialist language. You can use **a single, static ppt slide** (though this element is not compulsory). At the end of the 3 minutes, there will be a signal, at which you must stop your presentation (even if it is in mid-sentence). All presentations must be done live – no online option is available.

How does it work?

The event will be publicized by both Corvinus Doctoral Schools and Corvinus Communications and will be open to both the academic community of Corvinus (students and instructors) and the general public as well, though prior registration will be necessary to attend. The talks will be evaluated by an academic panel according to a set of criteria focusing on a) comprehension and content; and b) engagement and communication (see below for details). All presentations will be recorded.

How do I apply?

The application form is now available. You can apply here.

 There are no restrictions on how many students can apply from each DS. If, however, the overall number of applications for the competition exceeds 15 students, there might be a pre-selection process on the level of the individual doctoral schools or programs to ensure visibility for as many of the doctoral schools and programs as possible.

Why should I apply?

The 3MT competition provides a unique opportunity to promote your research, enhance your communicative skills and create an impact in both the academic community and the wider public! Prizes will be awarded for Best Presenter and also Best Doctoral School (based on

aggregate points). Members of the audience will also be able to cast their vote in the form of an Audience Award. The Best Presenter and winner of the Audience Award will receive proofreading opportunity for an English-language manuscript (in preparation for submission to a journal). Further, the videos of the winners will be published on the Corvinus website and widely distributed through the institute's social media channels.

3MT Rules (as per UQ guidelines)[1]
- A single static PowerPoint or PDF 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 presentation.
- 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[2]
Note: Each of the judging criteria has equal weight.
   a) Comprehension and Content
- Did the presentation provide a clear background and significance to the research question?
- Did the presentation clearly describe the research strategy/design and the results/findings of the research?
- Did the presentation clearly describe the conclusions, outcomes, and impact of the research?
   b) Engagement and Communication
- Was the oration delivered clearly, and in language appropriate for a non-specialist audience?
- Was the PowerPoint slide clear and did it enhance the presentation?
- Did the presenter convey enthusiasm for their research, and capture and maintain the audience's attention?

Important dates
- February 12: Registration for participation opens (online, managed by CDS)
- February 19: Registration ends
- February 19 – March 01: Preliminary selection in respective Doctoral Schools (if necessary); managed by respective Doctoral Schools
- March 06: Corvinus Doctoral Schools 3MT Competition

Want to know more? Resources, tips and videos of 3MT talks are available here:
https://threeminutethesis.uq.edu.au/

---

[1] Source: https://threeminutethesis.uq.edu.au/resources/competition-rules
[2] Source: https://gradschool.cornell.edu/career-and-professional-development/three-minute-thesis/