Call for Abstracts:  
3 Minute Research Presentation (3MRP) Competition

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Wednesday, January 22\textsuperscript{nd} 11:59 pm

Students from \textit{all} graduate academic programs are encouraged to participate. Students from the Phoenix Biomedical Campus, NAU Online, and statewide campuses are encouraged to participate. Interested students outside of the Flagstaff area should contact 3MRP@nau.edu to discuss alternative practice session and preliminary heats options.

\textbf{Purpose}

The Graduate College, in collaboration with the Office of the Provost, the Office of the Vice President for Research, Cline Library, and the academic colleges, is hosting the annual 3-Minute Research Presentation (3MRP) Competition. The 3MRP Competition provides an opportunity for NAU graduate students to present their thesis, dissertation, capstone research, scholarship, and/or creative work to an intelligent, non-specialist audience in just three minutes. This professional development opportunity is designed to increase and improve graduate students’ communication skills as well as their capacity to effectively present research, scholarship, or creative work.

\textbf{Background}

The 3MRP project draws heavily from the \textit{Three Minute Thesis (3MT\textsuperscript{®})} presentation, which was first developed by the University of Queensland in 2008. This form of research communication is aimed at “developing academic, presentation, and research communication skills and supports the development of research students’ capacity to effectively explain their research in three minutes in a language appropriate to an intelligent but non-specialist audience.”

3MRP Competition students may present research they are conducting for a thesis, dissertation, creative work, or non-thesis research capstone project they are working on while pursuing their master’s or doctoral degree at NAU.

For presentation examples, visit the NAU 3MRP webpage, which provides links to excellent presentations made by students from different disciplines. You may also view presentations from last year’s preliminary heats and final presentations on YouTube.

\textbf{Participant Timeline}

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, January 22\textsuperscript{nd} 11:59 pm</td>
<td>Submit your abstract using the \textbf{Abstract Submission Form}.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, January 23\textsuperscript{rd} 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Applicants notified of abstract acceptance via students’ NAU email.</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 27\textsuperscript{th} (5:00-6:00),</td>
<td>Presenters attend 1 required information session of 1 hour in Cline Library,</td>
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<td>January 30\textsuperscript{th} (1:00-2:00), or</td>
<td>room 131. All details about and training for the event are covered in the</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 31\textsuperscript{st} (9:00-10:00)</td>
<td>information session.</td>
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<td>January 31\textsuperscript{st} - February 10\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Prepare for the practice sessions - Suggested preparation:</td>
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<td>• Review Judging Criteria, Rules, Evaluation Form, and Additional Resources</td>
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<td>• Meet with Research Librarian to discuss research and presentation</td>
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Presentation Information
The vast majority of abstracts are accepted, and all students are encouraged to participate in the practice sessions, regardless of their intent to compete. Students will present their research/creative work and its significance face-to-face and compete in heats before advancing to the finals. If you are currently enrolled in an online/statewide program, are actively conducting research as part of your degree, and wish to participate, please contact 3MRP@nau.edu to discuss alternative practice session and preliminary heat options.

The preliminary heats are scheduled for March 4th, 6th, and 12th in Cline Library. Competitors are only required to stay for the duration of their presentation.

The finalists will present their three-minute presentation live on Tuesday, March 31st, 2020 from 3:00 pm – 5:30 pm at the High Country Conference Center on the NAU Flagstaff Mountain campus. These presentations will be filmed by NAUTV and posted to YouTube. Prizes will be awarded for the top three winners. Finalists will receive additional information about presenting in the finals.

The Graduate College will host information (and training) sessions and practice sessions in preparation for these presentations during the months of January and February (see timeline above). These presentations will be open to all graduate students, and students whose abstracts are accepted to participate in this competition will be required to attend these information and practice sessions.
Abstract Guidelines
Students who are interested in participating should submit their abstract using the Abstract Submission Form. The form requires a brief abstract of 100-500 words that describes the research or creative work and its significance for a general academic audience of non-specialists.

Student Eligibility
- The competition is open to master’s and doctoral students in good academic standing who have made substantial progress on research and analysis or creative work related to their academic program. Students from all academic programs are encouraged to participate.
- Presentations must be based on research directly related to the student’s thesis, dissertation, creative work, current research capstone project, or other coursework. Research related to past or current employment will not be accepted.
- Students do not need to have complete data analysis or be “defense ready” on their capstone, thesis, or dissertation work to participate in the 3MRP competition. However, we are looking for students who have made progress on their project, research, creative work, etc. and can prepare a presentation that addresses scope, significance, and impact of their work. Presenting preliminary data, pilot study data, and preliminary results is fine; results do not necessarily need to be conclusive.
- Students must be enrolled at the time of entry but may still compete if they defended and submitted their final thesis or dissertation prior to the conclusion of the competition in March, 2020.
- **Students must not have graduated prior to March 1, 2020.**
- Participants from previous 3MRP events are eligible to participate.
- All competitors must commit to attending one information session and at least one practice session (see timeline above).
- All competitors will be required to agree to be videotaped and to media exposure for their presentation and research.

Application/Abstract Submission
Abstracts must be submitted electronically by using the Abstract Submission Form by **Wednesday, January 22nd 11:59 pm**.

Abstract Review
The following criteria will be used to evaluate abstracts:
1. Clarity of the project’s focus (What is the purpose of the project?)
2. Significance of the research or creative activity (Why is this project important?)
3. Impact of the research or creative activity (What application does this project have?)

Questions regarding 3MRP?
Email us at: 3MRP@nau.edu

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