

3 Minute Research Presentation (3MRP) Competition Spring 2025

INFORMATION SESSION: View recording at link below

[NAU 3 Minute Research Presentation | NAU Office of Graduate and Professional Studies](#)

**OPTIONAL: DEADLINE FOR RECORDING & SLIDE SUBMISSION FEEDBACK:
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16th, 2025**

**FINAL SLIDE SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5th, 2025**

Students from all graduate academic programs and from all campuses including the Phoenix Biomedical Campus, NAU Online, and statewide campuses are encouraged to participate.

Purpose

The Office of Graduate and Professional Studies, 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 research or scholarly work that they are conducting for a thesis, dissertation, creative work, or non-thesis research capstone project that they are working on while pursuing their master's or doctoral degree at NAU to an educated, non-specialist audience in just three minutes. This professional development opportunity is designed to enhance graduate students' communication skills as well as their capacity to effectively present research, scholarship, or creative work.

Background

The 3MRP is modeled after the [Three Minute Thesis \(3MT®\)](#) competition, 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."

For presentation examples, visit the NAU [3MRP webpage](#), which provides links to excellent presentations made by students from different disciplines and other resources. You may also view presentations from previous preliminary heats and final presentations on [YouTube](#) and hear previous 3MRP competitors talk about their [3MRP experience](#).

Participant Timeline:

(Please email any questions to 3MRP@nau.edu)

By February 1st	View recording at link below NAU 3 Minute Research Presentation NAU Office of Graduate and Professional Studies Details, rules, and evaluation about the event are covered in the recorded information session.
February 1st-15th	Prepare slide & video submission for the practice sessions - Suggested preparation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Judging Criteria, Rules, Evaluation Form, and Additional Resources https://nau.edu/graduate-professional-studies/3-minute-research-presentation/ • Meet with Cline Research Librarian to discuss research and presentation • Create 3MRP slide • Create & record 3MRP Presentation (Similar to presenting in the preliminary heats & final competition e.g., standing (if possible); dressed professionally; no prompts (notecards, etc.) or reading of material)
By February 16th	(Optional) Submit <i>practice session</i> 3MRP slide and video submission to 3MRP@nau.edu for feedback
February 26th	Feedback (provided by UGC review committee) sent to presenters on practice session video submission
By March 5th	Submit Preliminary Heats slide to 3MRP@nau.edu and sign up for Preliminary Heat date/time (link will be provided)
March 25th and 26th	Preliminary heats (15-minute increments) via Zoom (link to be provided) Suggested preparation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice 3MRP Presentation Standing (if possible) in preparation for final 3MRP competition; dressed professionally; NO reading or use of prompts/notecards (participant will be disqualified) • Solicit feedback from peers • Edit slide
March 28th	Notification of finalists to students' NAU email
By April 4th	Finalists - submit bio, headshot, and <i>final</i> 3MRP slide to 3MRP@nau.edu
March 29th-April 15th	Prepare for the finals - Suggested preparation for finalists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice finalized 3MRP Presentation • Solicit feedback from mentor and peers • Edit single, static slide
Thursday, April 17th 3:30-5:00pm	Final 3MRP Presentations at NAU-Ashurst Auditorium (other students, finalists' guests, faculty members, administrators and community members are all invited to attend).

Presentation Information

The Office of Graduate and Professional Studies has prepared a recorded information session that is required to view **by February 1st** in preparation for the 3MRP presentations. The information session covers event rules, tips for success and resources.

Students may submit a recording and a slide of their research/creative work through an optional practice round due **February 16th** to receive feedback.

Final submissions for the preliminary heat round are due **March 5th**, with presentations occurring on **March 25th & 26th** via Zoom. The top presentations from the preliminary heats will advance to the in-person final competition.

The finalists will present their three-minute presentations in-person on **Thursday, April 17, 2025, from 3:30pm – 5:00pm at NAU-Ashurst Auditorium**. Prizes will be awarded for the top three winners. Finalists will receive additional information about presenting in the finals.

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 similar projects. Research related to past or current employment (outside of NAU) will not be accepted.
- Students do not need to have complete data analysis or be "defense ready" to participate in the 3MRP competition. However, we are looking for students who have made progress on their project and can prepare a presentation that addresses the 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 NAU as a graduate student during the spring semester.
- Participants from previous 3MRP events are eligible to participate, however the top 3 finishers from previous 3MRPs are not eligible to compete.
- All competitors must watch the recorded information session and submit a recorded practice presentation by the due date.
- All competitors will be asked to agree to be recorded and allow media exposure for their presentation and research.

Final Application Submission

Final Slide must be submitted to 3MRP@nau.edu by **Wednesday, March 5th**.