



3-MINUTE RESEARCH PRESENTATION (3MRP) COMPETITION

2024 INFORMATION/TRAINING SESSION

**PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME AND
DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM IN THE CHAT**

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OFFICE OF GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

WHAT IS THE 3MRP?

The 3-Minute Research Presentation (3MRP) is a competition where graduate students present their:

- **Thesis Research**
- **Dissertation Research**
- **Capstone Research**

and its significance to an intelligent, non-specialist live audience in **three minutes** with the aid of one stationary slide.

BACKGROUND

Based on the “3-Minute Thesis” (3MT[®])

- **Developed by University of Queensland in 2008**

3MT[®] is a form of research 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.”**

NAU’s 3MRP competition will allow students to:

- **Communicate the significance of their work to a general audience in a public forum;**
- **Develop skills that increases a language-base suitable for a wide range of audiences;**
- **Develop and improve presentation and communication skills.**

RULES

- A single static PowerPoint slide is permitted
 - No slide transitions, animations, or “movement” of any description; the slide is to be presented from the beginning of the oration.
- No additional props (e.g., costumes, musical instruments, laboratory equipment) are permitted.
- Data presented in the competitions should be considered as information likely to enter the public domain.
- Presentations are limited to three minutes, and competitors exceeding three minutes will be disqualified.
- Presentations are to be spoken word (no poems, raps, or songs).
- **No notes, assistance, or reading/partial reading of the presentation is allowed.**
- The announcer of the 3MRP program will introduce you by name and the title of your presentation. The timer will start as soon as the presenter begins talking.
- The decision of the judges is final.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

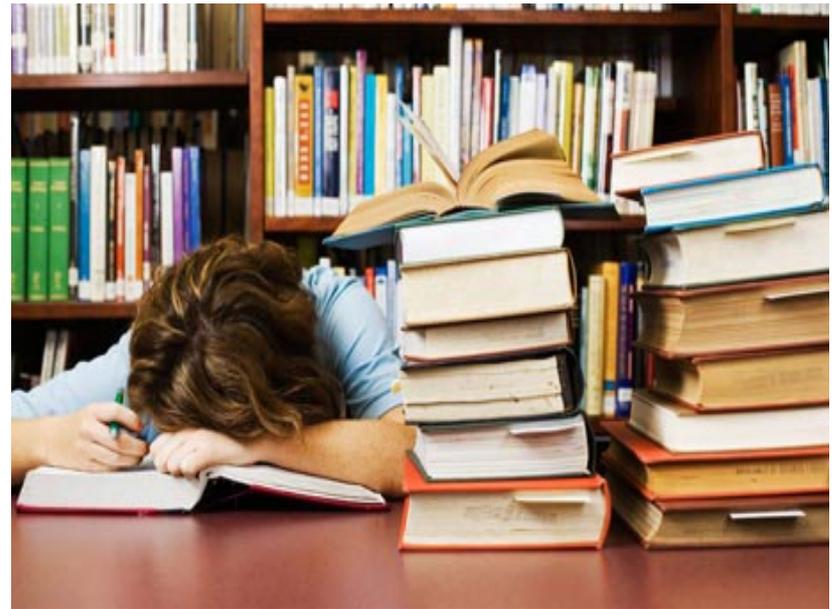
- **Comprehension of Presentation (Maximum Score = 15)**
 - **Clarity (5 pts.)**
 - **Delivery (5 pts.)**
 - **Visuals (5 pts.)**
- **Intellectual Impact (Maximum Score 10)**
 - **Intellectual Significance (5 pts.)**
 - **Intellectual Curiosity (5 pts.)**
- **Audience Communication (Maximum Score = 10)**
 - **Suited to a Non-Specialist Audience (5 pts.)**
 - **Context (5 pts.)**

For more information please visit:

<https://nau.edu/graduate-professional-studies/3-minute-research-presentation/>

CLINE LIBRARY RESOURCES

- Research assistance from specialized research librarians
<https://nau.edu/library/contact-your-subject-librarian/>
- Access to video recording, editing equipment, and software
- Access to practice rooms



IMPORTANT REMINDERS FOR 3MRP PROCESS

Process

1

- Submit practice 3MRP presentation recording & slide to 3MRP@nau.edu by October 6th

Process

2

- 3MRP Preliminary Heats on October 30th-31st (on Zoom)

Process

3

- Final 3MRP competition on November 14th (in person)
- Location: NAU, Ashurst Hall, Bldg. #11

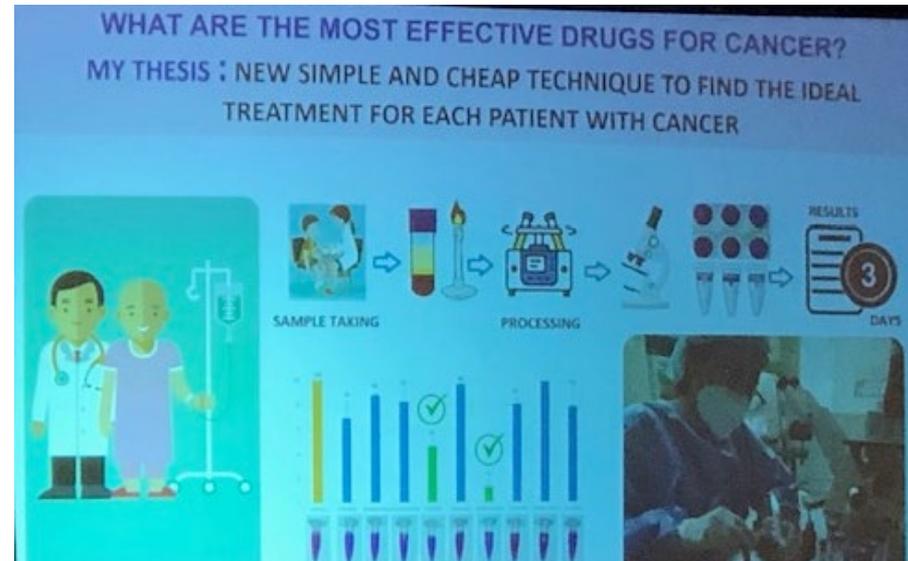
THE SLIDE - THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- Edit down - Less is better.
- One impactful image or diagram that encapsulates your project (be creative)
- You don't need a title on your slide, but if you want to include text:
 - It could be a question to spark the audience's interest
 - It could be a quote (remember to cite it)
- Slide should not detract from the presentation
 - The focus is on you and your presentation
 - The slide enhances; it does not "upstage"
- We will create a title slide containing your name, program, faculty advisor/mentor, and title of your presentation

SAMPLE PRESENTATION SLIDES

Sample slide #1

- Confusing layout
- Too much content
- Inconsistent images
- No hierarchy
- Difficult to understand topic



30% of Americans living with chronic pain
= 2X risk for suicide



There is no cure.
This is abnormal.
It is problematic.
You are limited.

This is manageable.
You are stable.
It is unresponsive.
We can adapt.



KIND COMMUNICATION



Sample slide #2

- Clear layout
- Balanced content
- Consistent visual theme
- Easy to understand topic
- Professional

QUICK NARRATIVE TIPS

- **Explain concepts or process as needed**
 - Understand your audience's level of knowledge
 - Use specialized terms as needed, but define them (briefly)
 - Address the “Why/Potential Impact”
- **Use language and numbers for impact**
 - Don't overwhelm with numbers, but illustrate trends
 - Use analogies to explain a complex topic
- **Map out your narrative flow**
 - Narrative = plot or story: getting from point A to B to C
 - Raise a question, then satisfy expectations
 - Underscore the challenges, then release that tension

ORAL COMMUNICATION

- Speaking
 - Be concise
 - Use shorter sentences
 - Choose active verbs over passive verbs
 - Avoid technical jargon and acronyms
 - Slow down and think about rhythm and pacing
- Using your voice and body
 - **Voice** - Vary tone, pause, project
 - **Body** – Make eye contact, watch gestures, exude confidence
 - Take deep breaths and clear your throat before your initial word

WHAT TO AVOID

- Muttering Static Vocalisms (Silence is OK)
 - “um”, “ah”, and “er”
 - “like” or “you know?”
 - “OK?”
- Looking at the floor or obviously avoiding eye contact
- Hands in your pockets or hyper-gesticulation
- Self-criticism before or during your presentation
- Comparing your presentation to others
- Making changes 24 hours before the presentation

DEADLINES & TIMELINES

Event	Date or Deadline
Submit Practice Session 3MRP Slide & Video to 3MRP@nau.edu	Sunday, October 6th *You will receive feedback by Wednesday, October 16 th
Submit Updated Preliminary Heats Slide to 3MRP@nau.edu	Wednesday, October 23 rd
Sign up for Preliminary Heat time slot (link will be sent on Thursday, October 24th)	Thursday, October 24 th - Friday, October 25 th
Preliminary Heats (attend ONE) Presentation slots will be 15 minutes each	Wednesday, October 30th (tentative: 8:30-5:00) Thursday, October 31st (tentative: 8:30-5:00) Via Zoom
Final Competition Presentations	Thursday, November 14th 3:30-5:00 PM Ashurst Auditorium (Building 11)

<https://nau.edu/graduate-professional-studies/3-minute-research-presentation/>

ADDITIONAL TRAINING RESOURCES

- Website (All of the resources below are linked within the 3MRP page on the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies (OGPS) website)
- Cline Library
 - [Schedule an Appointment for Research Assistance](#)
 - [The Studios](#)
 - [Request Studios Assistance](#)
- Examples of Presentations
 - [University of British Columbia](#)
 - [University of Melbourne](#)
 - [University of Queensland](#)
 - [University of Western Australia](#)
- Helpful Hints and Tips
 - [Making the Most of Your 3 Minutes](#) (Simon Clews)
 - [Communicating Your Research in Lay Language](#) (Cristian A. Linte)

THANK YOU FOR COMING!

QUESTIONS?

CONTACT: 3MRP@NAU.EDU

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