



2020 University of Lethbridge 3MT[®] Information Package

The University of Lethbridge School of Graduate Studies (SGS) and Graduate Students' Association (GSA) are very excited to host this international competition at uLethbridge.

Your participation means the world to us, and we have designed this document to answer many of the questions that you may have about the upcoming practice sessions, the qualifying heats, and the final competition. Please contact 3MT@uleth.ca if you have any questions, or need any further information.

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IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

DATE/TIME	ACTION/ACTIVITY
February 7 (noon)	REGISTRATION DEADLINE – 12:00 pm
February 25	Practice Session 1 (in B716) - 3:00pm
February 26	Practice Session 2 (in B716) - 3:00pm
February 27	Practice Session 3 (in B716) - 3:00pm
March 2 (noon)	Deadline for slide submission and confirmation of participation for Qualifying Heats
March 10	Qualifying Heat 1 (AH100) - 3:00pm
March 11	Qualifying Heat 2 (AH100) - 3:00pm
March 12	Qualifying Heat 3 (AH100) - 3:00pm
March 14	Deadline for submission of slide, Authorization to Reproduce Likeness, Biography, and Presentation Abstract
March 27	Final Competition (Markin Hall Atrium) - 5:00pm
April 17	Western Regional Competition at the University of Alberta

¹ The number/length of sessions/heats depends on the number of registrants; unneeded sessions will be cancelled.

REGISTER TODAY!

Register online at: <https://myexperience.uleth.ca/openEvents.htm?eventId=971>

Deadline: **12 p.m. on Friday, February 7th**

Eligibility: All uLethbridge students in good standing who are registered in a Master's or PhD program that qualifies for Tri-Council funding (SSHRC, CIRH, NSERC) are eligible to compete. Your 3MT® presentation must be directly related to your current graduate program.

In addition:

- Your qualifying heat must occur prior to receiving notification of the conferral of your degree, even if you do not attend a graduation ceremony.
- Your qualifying heat must occur prior to your defense of your thesis/project.
- Visiting students, exchange students, and students on leave are not eligible.
- You must register and be available to present in person during a qualifying heat.
- If you advance to the final competition, you must be available to present in person.
 - If a qualifier from any heat is not available to present in person during the final competition, a runner-up will take the place of that competitor.
- If you are the winner of the uLethbridge 3MT® competition, you must be willing to present in person at the regional competition. Individuals who qualify from the regional event for the national competition will be invited to submit a video.
 - If the winner of the uLethbridge final competition is not available to participate in the regional competition, the runner-up will take the place of that competitor.

PRACTICE SESSIONS

Optional practice sessions will be held:

- February 25 Practice Session 1 (in B716) - 3:00pm
- February 26 Practice Session 2 (in B716) - 3:00pm
- February 27 Practice Session 3 (in B716) - 3:00pm

B716 is a meeting room in the B Block of the 7th floor of Uhall. Please wait outside the room for your Practice Session timeslot. Please arrive 5 -10 minutes early; you will have 15 minutes to deliver your 3MT® and receive feedback from our coaches. You may bring 1 person with you, who can capture video of your presentation (optional). Please note that the amount and duration of practice sessions will depend on the number of participants.

You will receive an email confirming your practice session after registration is completed. You may bring your PowerPoint slide with you on a USB flash drive to your practice session. **Optimal PowerPoint slide formatting for a Qualifying Heat slide is Widescreen (16 x 9).**

QUALIFYING HEATS

Up to 3 heats, used to narrow the field of competition prior to the Final, will be held:

- March 10 Qualifying Heat 1 (AH100) - 3:00pm
- March 11 Qualifying Heat 2 (AH100) - 3:00pm
- March 12 Qualifying Heat 3 (AH100) - 3:00pm

Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the start of your heat and be prepared to stay for the duration of the heat if possible. You must submit your presentation slide for your Qualifying Heat by **12 p.m. on March 2nd**; please send your slide in PowerPoint or .pdf format to 3MT@uleth.ca. If an updated slide is not received prior to this time, no slide will be used. **Optimal PowerPoint slide formatting for a Qualifying Heat slide is Widescreen (16 x 9).**

There will be an audience for the qualifying heats in addition to the judges, a technology assistant, and the event host. You may ask a friend to record audio and/or video of **your presentation only**, and you must arrange for camera/audio recorder placement prior to the start of your presentation. To plan for a recording of your 3MT® presentation during the qualifying heat, please email 3MT@uleth.ca.

Using the availability results of the registration survey completed prior to the Practice Sessions, the order of presentations in each heat is assigned by random draw. NOTE:

1. Up to three heats will be held (approximately 9–10 participants per heat). This is subject to change depending on the number of participants.
2. If more than 6 participants from any one department enter the Qualifying Heats, the 3MT Committee reserves the right to hold a department-specific heat, in addition to mixed-department heats.
3. The judging panel will complete distinct scoring and final rankings of competitors in each heat (i.e. the heats will be distinct events, and judging decisions for the first heat will not impact later heats).
4. The judging panels may include University of Lethbridge faculty and staff. Every effort is made to avoid a perceived conflict of interest (e.g., individuals with any connection to any competitor). If you believe that there is any conflict of interest, please contact Helen Kelley (helen.kelley@uleth.ca) immediately.
5. Judges will provide general (verbal) comments to the group of competitors at the conclusion of each heat. Judges will also complete scoring during each presentation, and a final ranking will be compiled at the end of the competition.
6. There will be ten (10) to twelve (12) spots in the final competition, depending on the number of heats. An equal number of competitors will advance from each qualifying heat (e.g. If there are two heats, 5 competitors will advance from each. If there are 3 heats, 4 competitors will advance).

7. Immediately following the qualifying heat, the judges complete their scoring and an announcement will be made shortly thereafter regarding the competitors who have successfully advanced to the final competition.

FINAL COMPETITION

The final competition will be held on **March 27, 2020 in the Markin Hall Atrium at 5:00 p.m.** as part of the *GSA Meeting of the Minds* Conference.

Prizes

For the final competition, four prizes will be awarded: First Place, Second Place, Third Place, and People's Choice. First Place will be given to the competitor with the highest score in the final competition, while Second and Third Place will be given to the competitors with the next highest scores. The fourth prize will be awarded to the "People's Choice" winner. Each member of the audience cast a vote for their favorite presentation and the competitor with the greatest number of votes is presented the People's Choice award.

All categories in the uLethbridge 3MT competition will have an associated monetary prize that may vary from year to year subject to donations received. Please see the SGS website (uleth.ca/graduate-studies/thrive/workshops-and-events/competitions/3-minute-thesis) for more information on the current year's prize value. We are actively seeking additional donors to ensure that prizing is attractive. All prizes are awarded immediately following the competition during the *GSA Meeting of the Minds* Conference opening wine & cheese reception.

REGIONAL & NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

The winner of the uLethbridge 3MT® final competition qualifies to represent uLethbridge at the Canada-West 3MT® Competition. The SGS will cover all travel costs associated with this event. If the winner of the uLethbridge 3MT final competition is unable to attend the Canada-West 3MT competition, the runner-up will represent uLethbridge.

The First, Second, and Third place winners of the Canada-West Regional 3MT® Competition qualifies to compete in the virtual National 3MT® competition hosted by the Canadian Association for Graduate Studies. Please visit www.cags.ca/3mt.php for further information. The captured videos of the three winners from the Canada-West 3MT Competition are forwarded to the virtual National 3MT Competition.

RULES

1. A single static PowerPoint 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 oration). Please note that using a slide is optional as the presentation focus is on your oration skills. Images used in the slide must be your own, or you must have permission from the copyright holder or owner of the photo(s) and provide proper credit(s).
2. No additional electronic media (e.g. sound and video files) are permitted.
3. No additional props (e.g. costumes, musical instruments, laboratory equipment) are permitted.
4. Presentations are limited to 3 minutes maximum and competitors exceeding 3 minutes are disqualified.
5. Presentations are to be spoken word (e.g. no poems, raps or songs).
6. Presentations must be based on research directly related to the student's University of Lethbridge graduate program thesis. Research performed for employment or previous studies should not be presented.
7. Presentations are to commence from the stage.
8. Presentations are considered to have commenced when a presenter starts their presentation through movement or speech.
9. Presenters must agree to allow the University of Lethbridge to capture the presentation on video.
10. The decision of the adjudicating panel is final.

JUDGING CRITERIA

A panel of judges from the uLethbridge and the Lethbridge community judge the presentations. The judging criteria have equal weight. Note that each criterion has an emphasis on the audience. The Canada-West Competition and the National 3MT Competition are adopting the same judging criteria.

During the practice sessions, the Practice Analysts will follow the same criteria as judges for the Qualifying Heats and Final Competition, although less emphasis will be placed on the audience as the sessions will not include an audience.

Comprehension

- Did the presentation provide a background to the research question being addressed?
- Was the significance and context of the research explained?
- Did the presentation clearly describe the key results of the research including conclusions and outcomes?
- Did the presentation follow a clear and logical sequence?

Engagement

- Did the oration make the audience want to know more?
- Was the presenter careful not to trivialize or generalize their research?
- Did the presenter convey enthusiasm for their research?

- Did the presenter capture and maintain their audience's attention?

Communication

- Was the thesis topic, key results and research significance and outcomes communicated in language appropriate to a non-specialist audience?
- Did the speaker avoid scientific jargon, explain terminology and provide adequate background information to illustrate points?
- Did the speaker have sufficient stage presence, eye contact and vocal range; maintain a steady pace; and have a confident stance?
- Did the presenter spend adequate time on each element of their presentation - or did they elaborate too long on one aspect?
- Did the presentation feel rushed?
- Did the PowerPoint slide enhance the presentation - was it clear, legible and concise?

RESOURCES

To assist with your preparations, here are some helpful resources.

- uLethbridge 3MT® Videos: uleth.ca/graduate-studies/thrive/workshops-and-events/competitions/3-minute-thesis/past-finalists
- University of Queensland (founder of 3MT®) Webpage: threeminutethesis.uq.edu.au/watch-3mt
- Dr. Inger Mewburn, Director of Research & Training at Australian National University, presents key tips for summarizing your research in three minutes: thesiswhisperer.com/2010/07/01/how-to-sell-your-thesis-in-3-minutes-or-less/
- Annette Grant from Fast Company describes how fear affects behaviours, and provides three strategies for overcoming public speaking anxiety: fastcompany.com/3042570/how-you-can-finally-conquer-your-fear-of-public-speaking
fastcompany.com/3061395/six-common-pieces-of-terrible-speaking-advice-that-just-wo