



DOCTORAL STUDIES WORKING GROUP



Coimbra Group 3 Minute Thesis Competition

Call for Participation 2025 Edition

Rules for the Coimbra Group 3MT Competition

In principle, the **University of Queensland Rules** for video entries apply to the Coimbra Group competition. Please make sure to consult them [here](#).

Furthermore, **additional technical specifications for video entries** apply to the Coimbra Group 3MT Competition for uniformity, comparability and technical simplicity. Please make sure to consult them below.

Recordings from both physical and online competitions will be accepted, provided that the performance is carried out live (even if online) and that the video submitted is not the best version of several recorded ones.

1. A **single static 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.
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 are to **commence from the stage**.
7. Presentations are considered to have commenced when a presenter starts their presentation through either movement or speech. **Don't use extras beeps or other signs to start.**
8. The decision of the adjudicating panel is final.



9. Coimbra Group additional rules:

- Videos must be filmed at an **institutional live 3MT event**, and **not** be a “studio” recording.
- **The presentation by the doctoral researcher must stand for itself:** oral introductions at the event shall **not** be included, **nor** any opening credits by the producers.
- Videos must be as **simple as possible**. Only a single static camera shot pointing at the candidate.
- **Video edits are not allowed:**
 - No credits.
 - No music.
 - No introductions.
 - Only one slide illustrating the talk.
- **Sound quality.** Please, use a **good microphone**.
- Computers or any other devices are **not allowed** during the presentation.
- As a strong recommendation, we advise that the **whole body should be visible** in the video during the presentation.

Edited recordings will be excluded from participation in the Coimbra Group 3 MT competition by the technical committee.

Judging Criteria

The following criteria shall be applied in the local events, the initial procedure to determine the finalists as well as in the finals.

Comprehension and content:

- Presentation provided clear background and significance to the research question.
- Presentation clearly described the research strategy/design and the results/findings of the research.
- Presentation clearly described the conclusions, outcomes and impact of the research.

Engagement and communication:

- The oration was delivered clearly, and the language was appropriate for a non-specialist audience.
- The slide was well-defined and enhanced the presentation.
- The presenter conveyed enthusiasm for their research and captured and maintained the audience’s attention.



In judging the presentations, it should be understood **that scholarly and scientific research is at the core of the activity**. Thus, the findings, results and the evidence for it must play a significant role in the presentation.

Mere claims and overstatements of any kind regarding the scientific findings and their consequences or relevance **must be avoided**.

Eligibility

The 3MT is about **communicating research results**, not mere research plans. Therefore, active doctoral researchers (i.e. prior to thesis defense, no graduates) are eligible to participate **if and only if** they have already achieved substantial research results that can and have to be presented in the presentation.

Thus, the target group most likely consists of **doctoral candidates in the last year of their thesis**. Graduates are not eligible.

Presentations not reporting tangible results will be excluded from participation in the Coimbra Group 3MT competition by the technical committee.

How to submit your entry for the 2025 edition of the Coimbra Group 3MT Competition

Videos should be accompanied by:

- **The contestant's 3MT slide (illustrating the talk)**
- **A cover slide containing (mandatory):**
 - ✓ the name of the University
 - ✓ the name of the contestant
 - ✓ the title of the presentation
 - ✓ the research area
 - ✓ the contestant's email address



Prizes

Coimbra Group will award a total prize pool of €5 000 at the 2025 live final as follows:

- €2 000 will be provided to the winner of the final
- €1 500 prizes for the two runners up

The three finalists will also be awarded a trophy and a certificate.

Timeline

4 November 2024 10h-11H CET	Online meeting with 3MT contact persons from CG participating universities for a technical briefing with the members of the technical committee . <i>It is strongly recommended that all participating universities are represented at this meeting.</i>
28 March 2025	Deadline for CG participating universities to submit their video entry for the Coimbra Group 3MT live final.
10 - 24 April 2025	First round of the competition (virtual) : Coimbra Group Universities to vote for the top 3 entries.
12 June 2025	Coimbra Group 3MT live final at the University of Bologna with the three finalists.

Contact person at the Coimbra Group Office:

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More information:

Coimbra Group website: <https://www.coimbra-group.eu/coimbra-group-3-minute-thesis-competition>