

Three Minute Thesis (3MT) 2019

*What you need to know about the
3MT competition at
Sheffield Hallam University*

AN 80,000 WORD THESIS
WOULD TAKE 9 HOURS
TO PRESENT.

THEIR TIME LIMIT... 3 MINUTES.

THREE MINUTE THESIS COMPETITION



The Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) is an academic competition developed by The University of Queensland (UQ), Australia for research students.

Competition overview

- Three Minute Thesis (3MT[®]) is a research communication competition developed by The University of Queensland (UQ).
- Doctoral students have three minutes to present a compelling oration on their thesis and its significance.
- 3MT challenges students to consolidate their ideas and research discoveries so they can be presented concisely to a non-specialist audience.
- Developed by The University of Queensland (UQ) in 2008, enthusiasm for the 3MT concept and its adoption in numerous universities led to the development of an international competition.

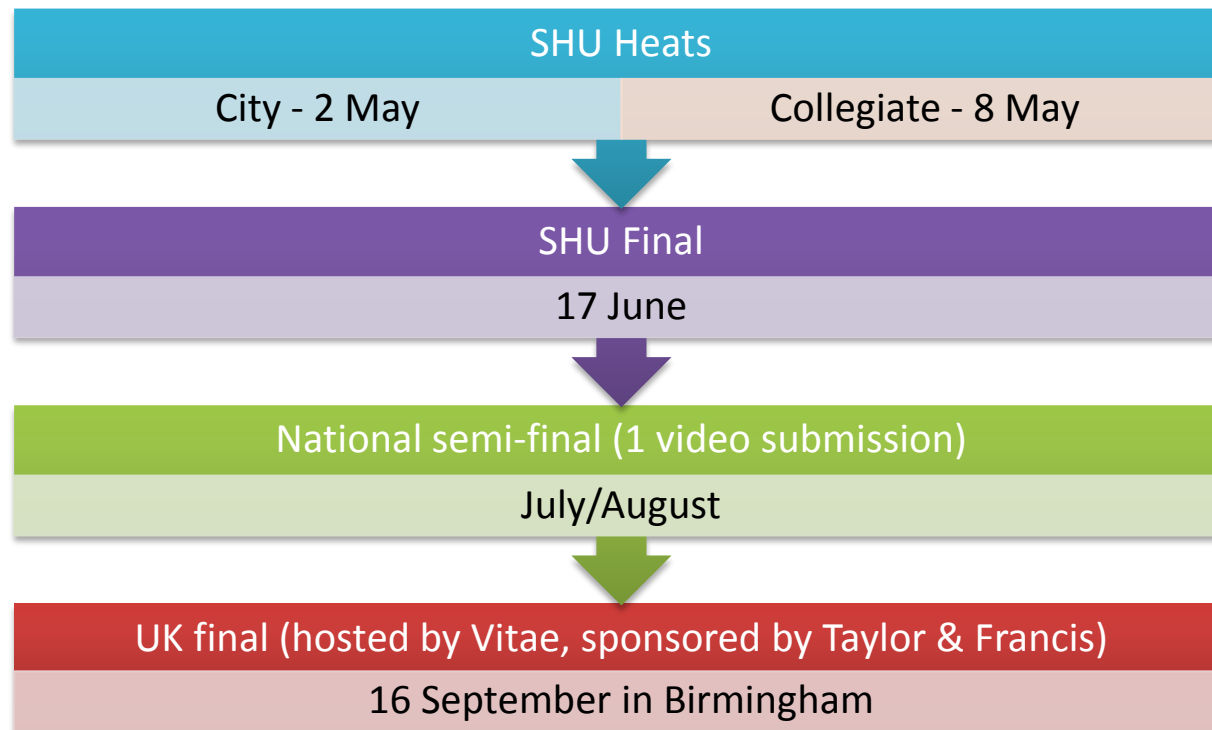
Entering gives you the opportunity to:

- Develop your communication skills in a supportive environment
- Practice explaining your research and discover what people find most interesting about it
- Get feedback on your presentation style
- Share your research and your passion for it with the broader research community
- Raise your profile as a researcher within and beyond the University

The 3MT competition at SHU

- Heats are held at City and Collegiate (both open to doctoral researchers from across the University)
- The SHU final will be part of the University Creating Knowledge Conference on 17 June
- The SHU winner gets £250 towards an academic conference of their choice
- The SHU winner is also put forward as our entry to the UK national competition

SHU and UK Competition 2019



Eligibility

- All SHU doctoral students who will **not** have had their viva by 17 June 2019 are eligible to enter
- Only those who **have** passed their confirmation (RF2 or equivalent) by the date of their first 3MT presentation (i.e. your chosen heat) will be eligible to proceed to the national competition
- You must be available to present at one of the heats (2 May or 8 May) and the final on 17 June (if selected for the SHU final)

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 electronic media (e.g. sound and video files) are permitted.
- No additional props (e.g. costumes, musical instruments, laboratory equipment) are permitted.
- Presentations are limited to 3 minutes maximum and competitors exceeding 3 minutes are disqualified.

Rules (continued)

- Presentations are to be spoken word (e.g. no poems, raps or songs).
- Presentations are to commence from the stage.
- Presentations are considered to have commenced when a presenter starts their presentation through movement or speech.
- The decision of the adjudicating panel is final.

Judging criteria: Comprehension & Content

- Did the presentation provide an understanding of the background and significance to the research question being addressed while explaining terminology and avoiding jargon?
- Did the presentation clearly describe the impact and/or results of the research, including conclusions and outcomes?
- Did the presentation follow a clear and logical sequence?
- Was the thesis topic, research significance, results/impact and outcomes communicated in language appropriate to a non-specialist audience?
- Did the presenter spend adequate time on each element of their presentation - or did they elaborate for too long on one aspect or was the presentation rushed?

Judging criteria: Engagement

- Did the oration make the audience want to know more?
- Was the presenter careful not to trivialise or generalise their research?
- Did the presenter convey enthusiasm for their research?
- Did the presenter capture and maintain their audience's attention?
- Did the speaker have sufficient stage presence, eye contact and vocal range; maintain a steady pace, and have a confident stance?
- Did the PowerPoint slide enhance the presentation - was it clear, legible, and concise?

How to enter

email doctoralschool@shu.ac.uk

by 5pm on Monday 15 April 2019

- Your name
- Faculty
- Thesis title
- Preferred heat (2 May City / 8 May Collegiate)

Further information

The SHU 3MT competition

- <https://blogs.shu.ac.uk/doctorschool/three-minute-thesis-3mt-competition-2019/>

The national 3MT competition

- <https://www.vitae.ac.uk/events/three-minute-thesis-competition>

University of Queensland 3MT competitor guide

- <https://threeminutethesis.uq.edu.au/resources/3mt-competitor-guide>

Examples of 3MT presentations:

- [SHU 2016 3MT finalists](#)
- [SHU 2015 3MT finalists](#)
- [2018 UK semi-finalists](#)
- [2018 UK finalists](#)
- [3MT presentations from around the world](#)



3MT

**THREE
MINUTE
THESIS**

FOUNDED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

