

Three Minute Thesis Competition: Rules



The goal of a Three Minute Thesis competition is to focus on the power of public speaking—not fancy PowerPoint slides or distracting gimmicks. The following rules are to help keep the focus on public speaking and ensure that all participants follow the same guidelines:

- Presentations will be timed and are limited to three minutes maximum.
- A single static PowerPoint slide is permitted. No slide transitions, animations, or movement of any kind on the slide are allowed. The slide must appear at the beginning of the presentation and remain through the duration of the presentation.
- Presentations must all begin at the center of the presentation stage (e.g. no dramatic entrances from the wings).
- Presenters will not have a podium or access to a computer to display notes. Reading from notes is highly discouraged.
- No additional electronic media (e.g. sound and video files) is permitted.
- No additional props (e.g. costumes, musical instruments, laboratory equipment, tablets for reading notes) are permitted.
- Presentations are considered to have begun when a presenter starts their presentation through either movement or speech.
- The decision of the judging panel is final.

Questions? Contact Michael O'Toole (mfo@uchicago.edu) at UChicagoGRAD.