

## **Three Minute Thesis (3MT®)**

### **What is Three Minute Thesis?**

Three Minute Thesis is a speaking competition specifically focused on developing students' ability to concisely communicate their own research to a general (non-specialist) audience. Each competitor will have a maximum of three minutes to explain his or her senior thesis or senior project and its significance.

Developed by the University of Queensland, Australia, Three Minute Thesis has been adopted by universities in 18 countries, including nearly 40 universities in the US. Although 3MT was originally designed as a graduate student competition, we have been given permission to conduct a 3MT competition here, making Hamilton, to the best of our knowledge, the only strictly undergraduate college to become involved in this internationally recognized competition.

### **What are the rules?**

- Each participating student will give an oral presentation of no more than three minutes in length.
- Speakers may use only one static (no animations) PowerPoint slide, which will be displayed from the beginning of the presentation to the end.
- No other props, visuals, or media are permitted.
- Presentations may not be in the form of raps, poems, songs, dances, or other kinds of performances.

### **Who is eligible?**

All Hamilton College seniors who will have completed a thesis or senior project during the 2014-15 academic year are eligible to compete in 3MT.

### **What are the prizes?**

The first prize winner will receive \$750. First and second runners-up will receive prizes of \$500 and \$250, respectively.

### **When is the competition?**

All participating students will deliver their presentations on Saturday morning, May 2, 2015. The time frame is 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. Depending on the number of students who participate, there may be two rounds, a preliminary starting at 9 and a final starting at 11. When registration for the contest closes on April 20, the final plan for May 2 will be announced.

### **Where will the competition be held?**

The event will be held in Kennedy Auditorium (G027) in the Taylor Science Center.

### **Do I need to register in advance?**

All participants must register for the competition by April 20, 2015. Register at <https://my.hamilton.edu/survey-manager/survey?id=2235>

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### **What additional information and resources will be available?**

Information and coaching sessions will be offered by the Oral Communication Center. Email notices will be sent out when the dates of those sessions are confirmed. In the meantime, direct any questions to James Helmer, Oral Communication Center Director [jhelmer@hamilton.edu](mailto:jhelmer@hamilton.edu).

Students participating in 3MT are encouraged to schedule conferences with Oral Communication Center peer tutors to practice their talks and get advice. You can make a conference appointment by going to the OCC website: <https://my.hamilton.edu/oralcommunication/calendar>

For more information about 3MT, including videos of student presentations, visit the 3MT website <http://threeminutethesis.org/>