



What to Expect and How to be Successful



WHY PARTICIPATE?

Showcase your work

Develop communication/
presentation skills

Compete for awards

Learn about research in other
disciplines

Grow your network

EVENT DETAILS

Jan 12 – registration deadline
we encourage signing up soon!

Jan 27-Feb 6 – practice sessions with
mock judges

Feb 9 – deadline to submit slide

Feb 11 – first round of competition,
9am–5pm, Union
(Feb 12 reserved as back-up)

Feb 25 – final competition, 5pm, Union
Awards: 1st place and 2nd place (by judge
scores), People's Choice (by audience vote)

March 27 – winner participates in
MAGS competition (regional)

EVENT LOGISTICS

Present KSU grad research

Three minutes to present

Single, static slide

No props, poems, notes, etc.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Comprehension and Content

Did you provide a clear understanding of your research and its importance?

Engagement

Was your presentation interesting and did the audience enjoy listening to you?

NOT YOUR TRADITIONAL ACADEMIC PRESENTATION

Presenting to non-experts

Less focus on method and analysis

More focus on why we should care

Celebration of your work!

KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE

Tailoring language

Identify technical language and avoid it

Practice with audience in advance

Share your work with family, friends

What terms/concepts were once unfamiliar to you?

But don't oversimplify

KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE

Capture their
interest

Use an engaging title

Open with something intriguing or
relatable

Tell a story--beginning, middle, end

Avoid tiny details, focus on the big
picture

Why should we care?

Show your excitement!

PRESENTATION TITLE

An opportunity for
creativity

Your first opportunity to engage
audience

Avoid technical terms, use common
language

Ask people not familiar with your
research if they would want to hear your
talk based on the title

Use Up-Goer Five Text Editor or other
humans

PREPARE YOUR TALK

Put it in writing

Start with an outline of key points for beginning, middle, and end

Tell the story of your research from a high level

Then expand to a narrative

Record/Read out loud to yourself

CRAFTING YOUR SLIDE

Develop the slide after you have a good draft of your talk

Enhances/supports your talk

Less is more

Talk should make sense without the slide

Does not have to include your name or title; we will have an intro slide for you

TIME MANAGEMENT

Preparing for the 3MT

It's only 3 minutes, but preparation takes some time

Start early, and work on your presentation a little every day

Suggested timeline

- **before winter break**, have a draft
- **use the break** to revise and enhance your talk
- **by early January**, start working on your slide
- **late Jan/early Feb**, attend a practice session

TIME MANAGEMENT

In the competition

Don't introduce yourself – a moderator will introduce you

Avoid "thank you" or other closing comments

Define technical terms but only use the definition

Be careful with questions and humor

USE RESOURCES

View winning presentations

KSU Writing Center

Resources on 3MT webpage

One Button Plus Studio (Sunderland
Foundation Innovation Lab)

- record yourself to review and plan your physical presentation

PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE!

Enjoy this experience!