WHAT IS GRAD SLAM?
Grad Slam is an annual contest in which master’s and Ph.D. students across UC campuses – in disciplines ranging from hard sciences to humanities – compete to sum up their research for a general audience.
EXAMPLE PRESENTATION
UC GRAD SLAM 2017 WINNER
HISTORY OF GRAD SLAM
Now in its fourth year, UC Grad Slam was originally based on the “Three Minute Thesis”- 3MT® - competition started by the University of Queensland, Australia in 2008

GRAD SLAM AT UC DAVIS
Last year, over 75 UC Davis master’s and doctorate students from the sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities apply to participate in the Qualifying Round. This year’s tournament will likely be even bigger and better.
EXAMPLE PRESENTATION
3 Minute Thesis Participant

MICHAEL MINOR
English, Film, and Theatre (Doctoral)

Decolonizing Through Indigenous Poetry
Now more than ever, it's important to be able to communicate your research to a broad audience.

Regardless of your professional goals, this skill set is critical to your success.
Grad Slam participants have the priceless opportunity to showcase to and discuss their research with an audience of campus leaders and regional employers.
THE PRIZES
SHOW ME THE MONEY

1st
$2,500
plus the all-expense paid trip to compete at the UC Grad Slam Championship

2nd
$1,500
plus the opportunity to attend and network with employers at the UC Grad Slam Championship

3rd
$750
plus the opportunity to attend and network with employers at the UC Grad Slam Championship

$500
People’s Choice Award will be issued at the UC Davis Grad Slam Final Round.
PLUS THE UC GRAND PRIZE.... $6,000.00
PARTICIPANT TIMELINE

GETTING READY FOR GRAD SLAM 2019

PREPARE
FALL 2018 + WINTER 2019
Attend workshops, watching videos, and start to prepare your presentation

REGISTRATION OPENS
JANUARY 7, 2019
Register for the qualifying round by visiting grad.ucdavis.edu/gradslam

COMPETE
Qualifying Round UCD:
FEBRUARY 7, 2019
Qualifying Round UCDMC:
FEBRUARY 8, 2019
Final Round:
MARCH 13, 2019
UC Championship:
MAY 10, 2019
STEP ONE

PREPARE
ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Graduate students currently enrolled in UC master's or doctoral graduate programs (including professional programs) are eligible to compete in Grad Slam.
I’VE DONE IT BEFORE. CAN I ENTER AGAIN?
Students who entered the contest or who were finalists in previous years are eligible to enter again; however, the winner is not eligible to enter again.

WHOSE RESEARCH IS IT, ANYWAY?
The research being presented must be related to your own graduate research at UC Davis. In cases of collaborative research, the presenter’s contribution to the project must be salient and clearly specified.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>DATE &amp; TIME</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rock the Talk! Part I: Overcoming Public Anxiety and Creating Your Elevator Talk</td>
<td>Nov. 27</td>
<td>6:00 pm - 7:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock the Talk! Part II: Creating and Effective and Memorable Presentation</td>
<td>Jan. 15</td>
<td>6:00 pm - 7:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winning the Grad Slam</td>
<td>Available for download at grad.ucdavis.edu/gradslam/</td>
<td>Podcast</td>
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EXPLORE THE RESOURCES AT GRAD.UCDAVIS.EDU/GRADSLAM/PREPARE
OTHER RESOURCES
VIDEOS, PODCASTS & MORE

VIDEOS
Captures of past competitions, both at the campus and the University of California level.

PAST WORKSHOPS AND PODCASTS
Can’t make the workshops? We have the audio recordings, presentations and agendas from past preparatory workshops.

EXPLORE THE RESOURCES AT
GRAD.UCDAVIS.EDU/GRADSLAM/PREPARE
STEP TWO

REGISTER
REGISTER FOR GRAD SLAM
IT’S EASY. NO, SERIOUSLY.

The application opens January 7. You do not need to submit your presentation when you register. All we ask for is the following:

- Name
- Email
- Student ID
- Graduate Program
- Presentation Title (Research Topic)

APPLY AT GRAD.UCDAVIS.EDU/GRADSLAM/APPLY
This year, we’d like to see all 100 graduate programs represented at the Qualifying Round.

Once you’ve applied, challenge your friends in other programs to do the same.
STEP THREE

COMPETE
• PowerPoint slides are allowed but optional; no Prezi or other presentation formats

• Maximum of 3 slides, exclusive of title slide to be generated by Graduate Studies

• Embedding of audio and/or video clips is allowed, but no other animations

• Props are allowed, but need to be cleared by the program coordinators, require minimal set-up, and not produce a mess
RULES & REGULATIONS

TIMING

Timing will commence from the moment the student starts talking; points will be deducted from the final score as follows:

- 3:03-3:04  1 point
- 3:05-3:06  2 points
- 3:07-3:08  3 points
- 3:09-3:10  4 points
- 3:11-3:12  5 points

Speakers will be cut off at 3:30 (total 15 point deduction).
During the Qualifying Round, a panel of two faculty members and one staff member will judge each preliminary round. The judges will be selected to ensure disciplinary diversity and every effort will be made to minimize conflicts of interest (e.g., a faculty advisor will not judge a preliminary round involving his or her advisee).
Participants are scored on a scale of 1 to 5 in the following categories...

- **Clarity**: Did the speaker provide adequate background knowledge to make the talk and the importance of the project understandable?

- **Organization**: Did the presentation follow a clear and logical sequence?

- **Delivery**: Including pace, enthusiasm, confidence, body language, eye contact, and vocal range.
• **Visuals:** If used, did the slides and/or props enhance the presentation and help to emphasize the primary points of the talk? Were the slides well designed, clear, legible, and concise?

• **Appropriateness:** Was the topic and its significance communicated in language appropriate to an intelligent, but non-specialist audience? (For example, did the speaker avoid or explain discipline-specific jargon?)
• **Intellectual Significance:** Did the speaker explain why her/his project matters? If the student presents on collaborative work, was the significance of the student’s unique contribution clearly specified?

• **Engagement:** To what extent did the talk speak to your intellectual curiosity? Did it make you want to learn more about the topic?
WHAT TO EXPECT
QUALIFYING ROUND

BEFORE THE COMPETITION

• Slides should be set to 4:3 aspect ratio in order to ensure proper display during your talk.
• Send your slides to knraley@ucdavis.edu by February 1. They will be pre-loaded onto a laptop.
• Please arrive at the venue at least 15 minutes before your scheduled presentation time to allow for check-in and other prep.

EQUIPMENT

All rooms will be equipped with a laptop, projector, slide advance remote, laser pointer, and microphone
TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE
WHO COMPETES AND WHEN

UC DAVIS FINALIST
Additional training/critiques offered prior to UC Championship.

UC DAVIS TOP TEN
Additional training offered between Qualifying and Final Rounds.

ALL APPLICANTS
Time slots will be assigned the week prior. Slides due Feb. 1.

UC CHAMPIONSHIP
May 10

FINAL ROUND
March 13

QUALIFYING ROUNDS
Feb. 7 & 8
250 Mrak Hall | One Shields Avenue
Davis, California 95616
530-752-0650
grad.ucdavis.edu