



Map The System 2026

Student Information Session



THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

<https://mapthesystem.trubox.ca/>

What is Map the System?

- An opportunity to **learn more about a social, economic and/or environmental issue you care about.**
- A challenge to **map out the problem & landscape of current solutions, then identify gaps** and missing opportunities for positive change.
- Run by the **Skoll Centre** for Social Entrepreneurship at Saïd Business School, University of Oxford, with **partner institutions around the world** each running their own competition.
- A competition where teams around the world come together to **win prizes.**
- Emerged out of the limits of business planning competition – all the fun and learning, with fewer naïve ideas.

Why should students take part
in Map the System?



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Who is Eligible?

- **Individuals** or teams of up to **5 people**
- **At least one member** of the team must be a **current student** at one of the partner institutions, OR a **recent graduate** (having completed studies within 12 months of registering for the competition).
- Students may be at **diploma, undergraduate, postgraduate or doctoral level in any discipline.**

Registration

Student registration is now open!

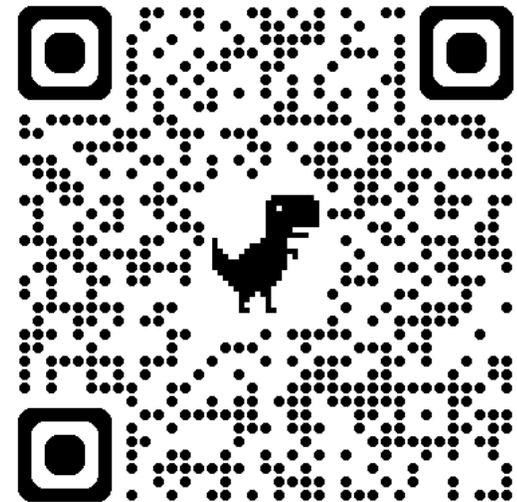
Register between now and January 31, 2026

What you need to register:

- Fill out online registration form
- Submit your proposed topic
- List all team members
(you can change these later)

Where to register:

www.mapthesystem.ca/take-part



Selecting Your Topic

- Start with what you are **passionate about**.
- The problem focus can be **local or global**.
- Consider your access to knowledge on the subject < seeking advice from people who have a different experience from you can be extremely helpful.
- Examples from previous years include affordable housing, the Canadian charity system, menstrual inequality, gentrification, youth homelessness and flooding.

Check out past competition submissions and the list of resources at www.mapthesystem.ca/resources

What do I need to submit?

By ~**April 9th, 2026**, you will submit **three** components:

| Visual Systems Map | Analysis of Research | Bibliography |
|--|--|--|
| Present findings in a visual ecosystem | Max 3000 words (excluding footnotes + citations) analyzing the research and key findings | Thorough citation of diverse sources (including academic and non-academic sources) |
| Suggested formats: PowerPoint, Prezi, PDF, or jpg. | Word or pdf. format | Any citation format |

Submission Details

Submissions should address **three important questions on a single, focused issue**. Each of these question areas should build upon the previous one, answering all of the following:

| Problem Landscape | Solutions Landscape | Lessons & Levers of Change |
|--|--|---|
| What is the issue you are looking to understand? | Who is already trying to solve this problem? | What is missing from the solutions landscape? |

Map the System Global Final

- The Global Final will take place on **July 9 - 12, 2026 in Oxford England**
- All campus finalist teams will compete at the global semi-final event
- The top teams will compete in the final for prize money in Oxford.

Funding to support the local competition, as well as travel and accommodation to Oxford, was provided by:



What are the Key Dates?

| | |
|---|---|
| Nov. 1, 2025 - Jan. 31, 2026 | Student Sign Up <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Register your team & topic details via Map the System website• Once registered, we can give feedback on your topic selection (so the earlier the better!) |
| Feb. 1 - April 9, 2026 | Student Research and Submission Preparation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Canadian Students from across Canada will prepare a Systems Analysis, Systems Map & Biography |
| April 9, 2026 | Student Submission Deadline <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teams must submit their written submissions using the online submission portal by 11:59 PM PST |
| Date: TBD | Local Campus Final <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teams will compete in a local campus final |
| May 4 - June 19, 2026 | MTS Canada coaching days |
| July 9 - 12, 2026 | Map the System Global Final at the University of Oxford |



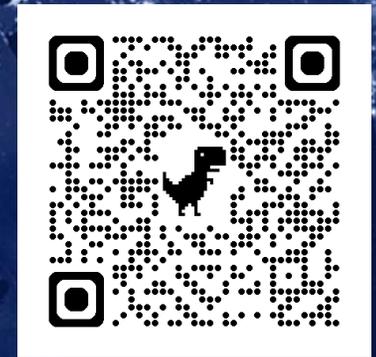
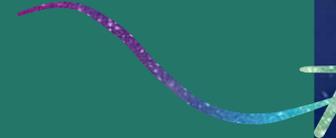
Sign up for reminders and invitations to prep events



TRU details here

Find out more:
mapthesystem.ca

Local Contact:
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Tons of
resources here

“Don’t fall in love with *solvability*, fall in love with *complexity*.”

Daniela Papi-Thornton (Tackling Heropreneurship, 2016)