3. ACADEMIC FRAMEWORK OF THE I-Ph.D.

o If a student gets an 'F' grade in an elective course in the first two years, he/she can substitute it with another elective as an overload and improve the grade. o The student must have a minimum CPI of 7.0 at the end of every semester in order to receive Institute assistantship. ■ Comprehensive Examination (Ph.D. candidacy requirements): The format and the conduct of the comprehensive exam will be decided by the department. The student must clear the comprehensive exam before the start of eighth semester. The candidate will be graded as "Satisfactory" or "Unsatisfactory" at the end of the examination. If graded "Unsatisfactory", the candidate is allowed to repeat the exam only once within a time frame decided by the department. In case the candidate cannot improve the grade, s/he will be terminated from the Integrated PhD program. Once the student clears comprehensive exam, s/he will be treated at par with PhD students who have cleared the comprehensive exam. ■ Research Credits: After the successful completion of comprehensive exam and graduate seminar, the students should register for 16 research credits every semester till the submission of PhD thesis. These credits will be graded as satisfactory/ unsatisfactory by the respective thesis supervisor at the end of each semester and will not account for the SPI/CPI. Any student who is graded as "Unsatisfactory" for 32 credits of research work after the comprehensive exam can be terminated from the program.