

GUIDELINES FOR COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Purpose of the Examination

The purpose of comprehensive examination is to ensure the student is thorough with his/her area of research to make original contributions.

Eligibility criteria to take the comprehensive exam

- i. The student needs to complete his/her coursework (Minimum 75%).

Deadline to take the comprehensive exam

The student is expected to complete his/her comprehensive examination as per the following:

S.No.	Category of the Student	Course Work (Min 75%)	Minimum CGPA
1	PhD students admitted directly from a BTech	24 Credits	7.0
2	PhD students after completing MTech	12 Credits	
3	PhD students for M.Sc in Engineering Departments	18 Credits	
4	PhD Students for dual degree (MTech+PhD)	24 Credits	

**Note: If the Student is from IIT/IISC/IISER the corresponding DC Committee may wave off up to 6 credits in case to case basis.*

Examination Timing

The precise schedule of the comprehensive examination, including the earliest and latest dates by which the comprehensive examination is to be finished, must be specified for the student by the supervisor/guide/coordinator and the Doctoral committee. Students must be advised of the particular dates of their examinations so they have appropriate time to study, given the importance of the exam and the consequences of failing.

The examination should be held at a satisfactory early point in the student's period of study. The process should start as soon as the coursework is finished, but at the latest at a time that allows for the completion of any conditions that the examining Doctoral Committee might require in the event of a pass, or for a retake if the exam is failed.

Examination Procedures and Format

Comprehensive Exam shall be held within 13 months of Registration.

The comprehensive examination can consist of two components as per the supervisor's choice.

- A written component and a Viva.

- The student must successfully complete both components. The content of these two components will vary by program of study within the program.

Constitution of the Doctoral Committee

The comprehensive exam evaluation committee should consist of

- **IITH-Deakin JDP students:**
 - i. Chairman (any senior faculty or Professor)
 - ii. Guide 1: IITH (Convenor 1)
 - iii. Guide 2: Deakin (Convenor 2)
 - iv. Nominee from Guide 1 (from IITH any department)
 - v. Nominee from Guide 2 (from Deakin, any department)

- **IITH ID PhD Students:**
 - i. Chairman (any senior faculty or Professor)
 - ii. Guide 1: IITH (Convenor 1)
 - iii. Guide 2: IITH (Convenor 2)
 - iv. Nominee from guide 1 (from IITH any department)
 - v. Nominee from Guide 2 (from IITH any department)

Note: DC formation should be completed within 1 month from the guide allocation.

Criteria for Evaluation

Students must pass the written and the oral components of the examination in order to successfully pass their comprehensive examination.

Conclusion

- In the event that the examination is **Not Satisfactory**, committee members must provide the reasons in writing.
- A student who is unsuccessful, will have a single opportunity to re-take the oral or written examination.
- The viva or written exam must be taken within a minimum of 1 month to a maximum of 2 months' timeline as approved by the Dean Academic.
- If for the second time the written/oral examination is unsuccessful again, the PhD Comprehensive Examination Report must be submitted to Academic Section, and the student can exit with options provided by the institute (mentioned in Comprehensive Exam Result Form).

Research Proposal Defence

- After passing the comprehensive written and viva, the student (including for external students) has to present the research proposal seminar (RPS).
- RPS is supposed to be done within 6 months of Comprehensive viva or 18th months (from the first registration date), whichever is earlier. Any delay for compelling reasons (like medical issues etc.) needs prior approval by the Dean and Director. Students (including for external students) who do not complete RPS within 24 months will be terminated.