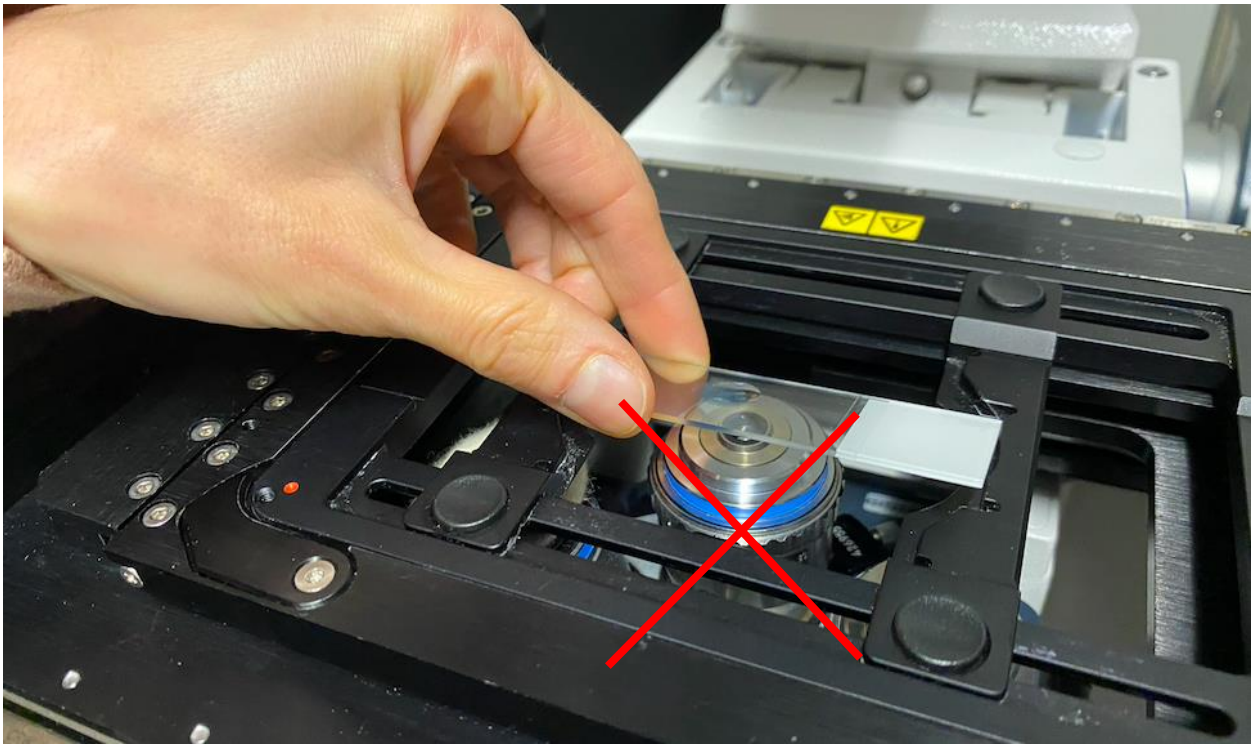
MODULE 11: COMMON MISTAKES IN THE LAB

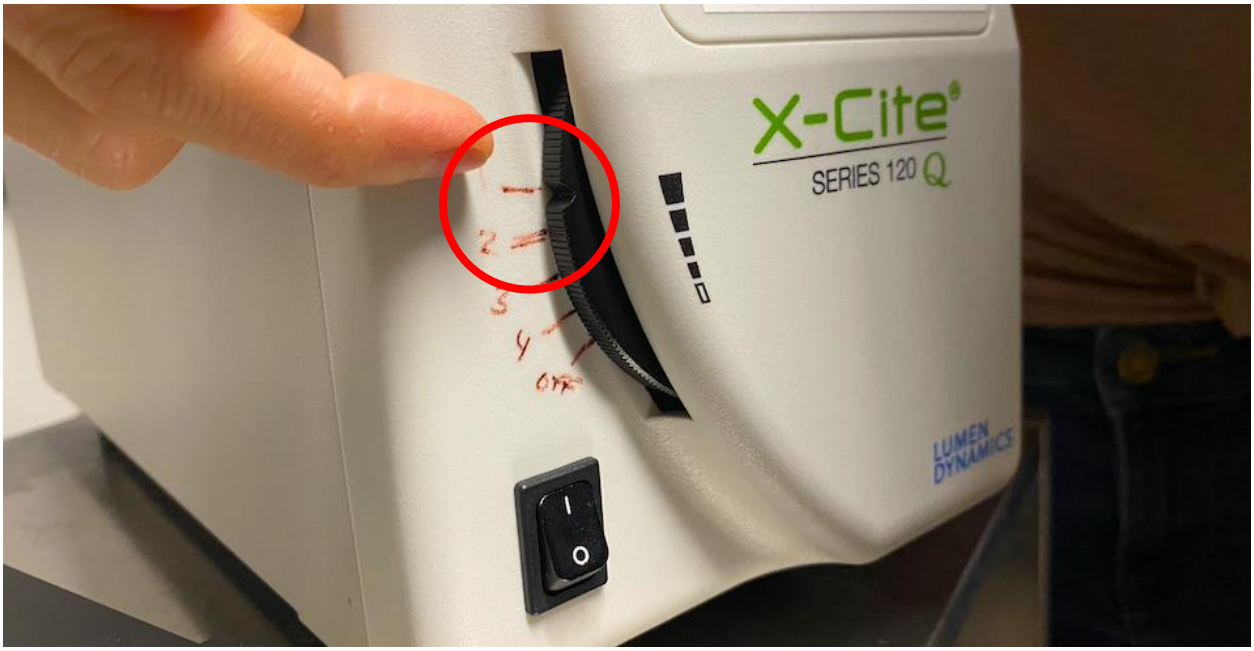
Objective: The goal of this module is for students to recognize common mistakes made in the imaging lab and fix them accordingly.

1. Using incorrect coverslips. Be sure to use high-quality coverslips that are 0.17mm thick. These will be labeled as No. 1.5. Most of the objective lenses in the imaging facility are corrected to image through the glass that is 0.17mm thick!
    - DO NOT USE No. 1 coverslips

2. Getting oil on the air lens
    - When switching from an oil lens to an air lens, don't forget to remove your sample and clean your sample and the objective lens before switching.



3. Forgetting to turn the lamp intensity up
    - When setting lamp intensity, first make sure it's turned on, and adjust the level of intensity as needed.

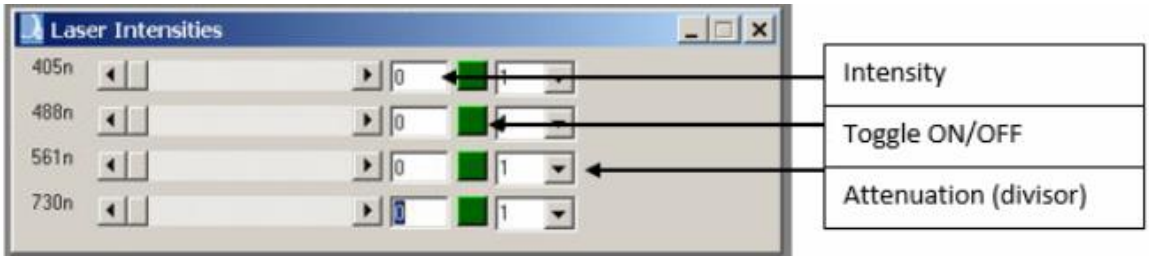


4. Forgetting to set laser power

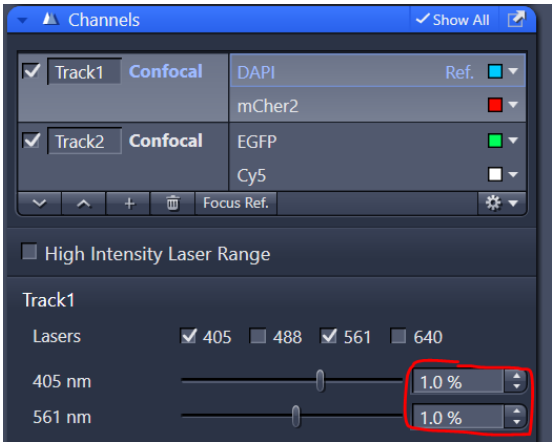
- When powering up your microscope, ensure the laser is on

- In the software you will also need to set a laser power

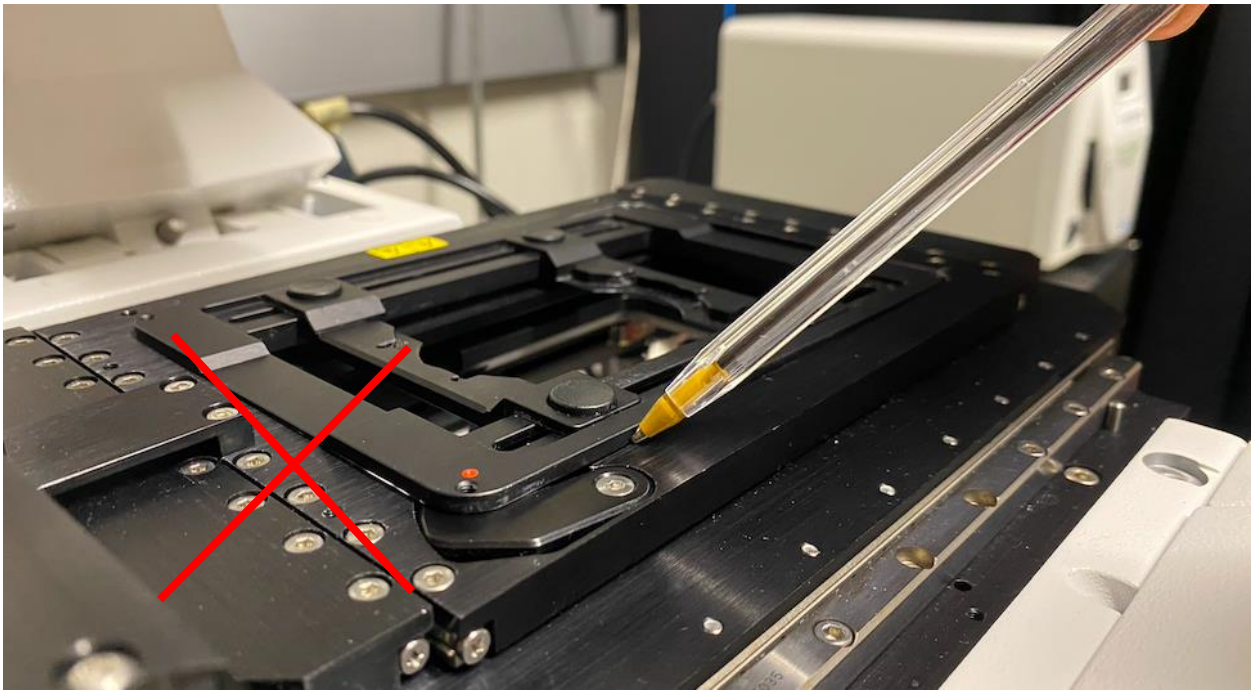
Example: Spinning Disc



Example: LSM



5. Stage not mounted correctly
    - When mounting the stage, ensure it's correctly placed
    - Must be flat with no corners sticking out



6. Sample not mounted correctly
    - When mounting your sample, ensure the coverslip is facing the right way.
    - Upright microscope: facing up
    - Inverted microscope: facing down