

Van Leeuwenhoek Centre for Advanced Microscopy



Overview for new users at LCAM-FNWI

For scientists that are interested to make use of the equipment and expertise of the van Leeuwenhoek Centre for Advanced Microscopy (LCAM) we will use the following procedure:

1. **Intake discussion.** Together with the LCAM staff the collaborative project will be discussed resulting in a form with info like project description and goals, involved users, techniques/microscopes to be used, requirements for training and data analysis, planned publications and IP.
2. **Self-study course microscopy¹** for the users that will carry out the microscopy experiments. We make use of the online course developed by our Australian Global BioImaging colleagues: MyScope (<http://ammrf.org.au/myscope/confocal/introduction>), where new users will learn the basic concepts of fluorescence (confocal) microscopy. In addition, one can play with the Virtual microscope tool to get familiar with the basic buttons of a microscope. Users can check their knowledge level via an online test.
3. **Confocal training day¹**. This is a 1 day course where users will follow lectures in the morning where those concepts of microscopy will be discussed that were unclear to the users in the online course. In addition, practical issues of microscopy experiments, laser safety and LCAM lab rules will be presented. During the afternoon a practical session is organized where small groups of users will learn the basic handling of a confocal microscope.
4. **Microscopy exam.** In order to make sure that the user does have enough knowledge to handle the 300-1000 kEuro microscope equipment, the user will have to pass an online microscopy exam.
5. **Microscope training session.** Together with the microscope-specific contact person the user will get a personal training at the specific microscope that will be used during the project. After this session the user is able to work at the microscope itself.

¹ The user may have followed other LCAM, UvA or external microscopy courses before that will cover points 2 & 3.

Optional courses. LCAM organizes multiple courses at various levels to strengthen microscopy knowledge. Visit www.microscopycourse.nl for more details.

Annual project discussion. In order to see if the project runs satisfactory and to discuss recent microscopy development that could be of importance for the project we try to organize an annual discussion session with the user. Of course users can contact the LCAM staff anytime when needed.

LCAM User Day. Since one can get inspiration by microscopy work from others, LCAM will organize small symposia where local scientists and external experts will present their work.

LCAM information. For more information about the van Leeuwenhoek Centre for Advanced Microscopy one can visit www.lcam.nl for general info or www.lcam-fnwi.nl for details about the centre at Sciencepark.