

Imaging Facility Biotechnology Resource Center Cornell University BRC\_Imaging@cornell.edu

## Differential Interference Contrast, DIC (Brightfield)

## Procedure

- 1. First, choose your objective lens and focus on sample/specimen.
- 2. Adjust microscope for optimal image brightness by doing Kohler illumination.
- 3. Check the polarizer below the stage. It must be in place and aligned 90 degrees to the analyzer. It usually is.
- 4. Push the DIC filter (upper polarizer or analyzer) IN.



DIC: Polarizer/Analyzer

5. Push the DIC Wollaston prism IN. The thumbscrew can be adjusted to change the image offset (height contrast) when looking at a flat surface.



DIC: Wollaston Prism

- 6. Make sure the condenser setting located just above the condenser diaphragm matches the objective used (no 4x or 10x).
- 7. Open the condenser diaphragm to allow more light.



Condenser Diaphragm