



# Blended learning: Plant Biotechnology as case study

Prof. G. Gheysen  
Ghent University

# Why?

1. How to handle diversity without losing high level quality ?



# Before



Extra explanation in class..

Boring for those that heard it before....

# Why?

2. How to handle messages in the media?  
eg. the rats of Séralini



**GMO**

**GMO + roundup Roundup**

# Why?

## 3. Stimulate more interaction between students



# Blended learning, how?

1. Different background



Video-recordings explaining basics > on teaching platform

*Camtasia ppt + webcam*

A screenshot of a video recording. The main part of the screen shows a diagram of a fluorescence microscope. The diagram is titled "Fluorescence" and shows the light path: a light source (red and blue arrows) passes through a filter (1) that allows only blue light (400-490 nm) through. This light hits a specimen (object) which fluoresces, emitting light (green arrow). A beam-splitting mirror (2) reflects the light below 510 nm but transmits light above 510 nm. A second barrier filter (3) cuts out unwanted fluorescent signals, passing the specific green fluorescence emission between 520 and 560 nm. The light then passes through an eyepiece. To the right of the diagram is a small inset image of a microscope. On the far right, there is a webcam feed showing a woman's face. At the bottom, there is a video player control bar.

# How?

## 2. Interpretation media-info



- More time in class for practical sessions on critical reading of scientific papers and internet information + discussions.
- Online forum for discussion.
- Group work on selected topics, peer evaluation and presentation in classroom.
- Mixed groups.



# Conclusion

Extra time needed to design the recordings  
...and to check the online discussion once in a while.

But...

A lot more time for interesting discussions in class.  
The students loved the interactions, and especially  
also the intercultural experience.

Tips?

Keep the recordings short and simple...

Do not hesitate and try it!