Course Title: “Topics in Industrial Organization, Trade and the Food and Agricultural Sector”

Professor: Ian M. Sheldon, Ohio State University

Outline of Course:

The topics covered in this course will focus on applications of industrial organization and trade to economic and policy issues in the food and agricultural sector. Specifically the course will focus on the following topics: vertical market structure and trade liberalization; imperfect competition and state trading; imperfect information and product quality; product standards and trade; biofuels policy and trade, contracting and agricultural markets, firms and trade, and exchange rate uncertainty and trade. The objective of the course is to expose students to applications of industrial organization analysis in a policy context, drawing on recent articles in the agricultural economics and economics literature.

Topics and Reading:

1. **Vertical Market Structure and Trade Liberalization**


2. **Imperfect Competition and State Trading**


3. **Geographical Indications and Quality**


4. **Credence Good Labeling and Trade**


5. **Biofuels, Trade and the Infant Industry Argument**


6. **Trade and Food Standards**


7. Rethinking Modern Agricultural Markets


8. Firms and Trade


9. The Gravity Model, Exchange Rate Uncertainty and Agricultural Trade


