In this course students will explore various research methods and methodologies, approaches, and ethical considerations in their research or creative projects. Among others, students are expected to engage with and identify, synthesize and evaluate relevant scholarly works. As such, the course will also emphasize the study and research skills and methods needed to conduct a final research and/or creative project. Further, students are expected to develop a focus that will provide direction and organization for their educational plans. Students will investigate courses offered throughout Metro State to shape that focus and tentatively outline final projects that will demonstrate their multidisciplinary learning. The course will introduce students to the nature of individualized study and the significance of interdisciplinary studies. During this course students will also consult with their advisor and instructor to decide whether they will pursue a Master of Arts (MA) or a Master of Science (MS). The decision will depend on the area of focus and the coursework that will be selected. While the conversation about a particular path starts in this course, students can make adjustments as they continue their coursework and through consultations with faculty. By the end of IDST600, students will submit a plan of study that outlines their focus areas and associated learning. The approval of this plan, including the relevance and appropriateness of associated learning, is at the discretion of the faculty. A faculty committee will have final approval responsibility for both students’ plans and final projects, prior to registration for IDST 699.