Discussion Questions

# Chapter 2: NEUROSCIENCE APPROACHES TO UNDERSTANDING PSYCHOPATHOLOGY

1. Implementing an evolutionary perspective, describe how anxiety-based disorders have origins linked to survival.
2. How might symptoms and neurocognitive functioning associated with Autism Spectrum Disorders be viewed as an adaptation to current (contemporary) environmental demands? Be sure to include in your response an evolutionary psychology perspective.
3. There are several methods available that allow researchers to observe and study brain activity. Why is it necessary to have a number of different techniques? Support your explanation with specific reasons and/or examples.
4. Suppose a friend of yours expresses concern with the prevalence of a particular mental disorder in her family history. She worries that she, too, might suffer from the illness in the future due to her genetic make-up. Are her concerns valid? What other information might you tell your friend to consider?