Discussion Questions

# Chapter 3: RESEARCH METHODS

1. You overhear someone in the library say the following: “I just read that there is a correlation between organic food sales and the presence of autism. I never knew that eating organic food can cause autism!” What is flawed about this statement? If you wanted to in fact test this hypothesis, what method might you use?

2. Compare and contrast external and internal validity. Provide examples of the different types of validity.

3. Describe why it is important to use a control group when conducting a research study using an experimental methodology. Why would using an experimental approach be crucial when studying treatment effectiveness?

4. Why might you conduct a study using a correlational approach instead of an experimental research study? Be sure to highlight ethical considerations as well as resource pragmatics in conducting correlational research.