**Discussion Questions:**

1. Why are the philosophical concepts of ontology and epistemology important to understand before undertaking business research?
2. What role do you feel scientific paradigms have in terms of the global discussion on climate change?

For the first question, students should firstly consider what each concept implies, evaluating the nature of reality, before considering how it is possible to know about reality. Students should consider why it is important to understand each philosophical position and the impact this will have on the methodology chosen for a particular research problem.

For the second question, the impact of paradigms on the climate change discussion is important, as there is a growing scientific consensus that climate change is man-made and caused by the actions of humans. This scientific consensus is sometimes refuted by those who do not believe in curtailing human actions and behaviour (such as the former US President Donald Trump, amongst others), however the prevailing scientific paradigm is tending to dictate many governments’ policies on this issue.