PSYC 103 Research Requirement:

Students enrolled in PSYC 103 must fulfill a research requirement, which constitutes 5% of your course grade. In order to fully satisfy this requirement, you must earn 10 research credits. Research credits are earned by A) participating in research studies offered by the Psychology Department, and/or B) reading psychology articles about research and then filling out review forms about them. You may choose to fulfill your requirement by any combination of these options.

At least 4 research credits are due before April 2nd (Spring semester) or October 13th (Fall semester), or else you will be penalized a portion of your grade. In addition, at least 6 credits are due by April 15 (Spring semester) or November 14 (Fall semester), or else you will be penalized a portion of your grade. All 10 research credits are due on the last day of class. After the last day of class, if you have earned some credits but less than 10, you will earn only a portion of the 5% toward your course grade.

Option A: Participating in Research Studies within the Psychology Department

Student and faculty researchers in the Psychology Department conduct scientific investigations on many of the topics covered in this course. You are encouraged to participate in psychological studies for several reasons: The experience is educational, allowing you to learn "first hand" about psychological research. In addition, your participation helps to train advanced psychology majors about how to conduct scientific investigations (under faculty supervision). You may sign up for studies at http://cofc.sona-systems.com. Only studies approved by the Technology Committee and posted on SONA may be used to fulfill Option A of this requirement. You will earn 1 credit for each study that is 1-30 minutes long, 2 credits for any study that is 31-60 minutes long, and so forth. Be sure to attend studies for which you sign-up or else cancel ahead of time. Otherwise, you will be penalized by losing 1 credit (in addition to not receiving any credit for the study). Any student who fails to show up without cancelling twice will no longer be allowed to sign-up for studies.

How to get started?
1) Go to https://cofc.sona-systems.com/
2) In the lower left corner, below "New Participant?", click "Request an account here"
3) Fill out all of the information. Your "userid" is a name of your choosing. Be sure to select the correct course, matching both your professor’s name and the time that your class meets.
4) You will receive an email with your logon information.
5) If you are under 18 years of age, you must have a signed parental permission form in order to participate in research studies. See http://psychology.cofc.edu/student-ops/research_requirement/103_docs/under_18.

How to schedule a study?
1) Login at https://cofc.sona-systems.com/
2) Click “Study Sign-Up”
3) Follow the instructions to view and sign up for any available studies. Note that there are sometimes few or no studies to choose from, but more timeslots will be added soon. If that is the case, check back later.
4) You will receive an email confirmation of your sign-up.

Option B: Reading Articles and Filling Out Review Forms

Approved journal articles are available through OAKS. After reading an article, complete the Journal Article Review Form, and turn it in to your psychology professor before the last day of class. Each review is worth 1 credit. To access the materials for the Journal Article Review:
1) Log on to OAKS (https://lms.cofc.edu/)
2) Click on the course called "Intro Psychology Journal Article Review" under the current semester
3) Click on the Content icon
4) Under Option B, download the article that you want to read
7) Under Option B, download the Journal Article Review Form.
8) Remember that you must read the entire journal article and answer the questions on the Journal Article Review Form in your own words. Plagiarism and/or simply reading the abstract will not be tolerated.
9) Turn in the Journal Article Review form to your psychology professor before the last day of class.

For additional research requirement information, see http://psychology.cofc.edu/student-ops/research_requirement/students.php.