PSYC 103 Research Requirement:

Students enrolled in Psychology 103 must fulfill a research requirement as part of this course. This research requirement constitutes 5% of your final grade, and may be completed in two ways: A) participating in experiments offered by the Psychology Department, and/or B) reading and reviewing empirical journal articles on psychological research obtained through the OAKS portal. Each of these options is described below in more detail. You should not feel pressured to participate in experiments; you will receive full credit if you successfully complete either alternative for this requirement.

A. Experiment Participation within the Psychology Department

Student and faculty researchers in the Psychology Department conduct scientific investigations on many of the topics covered in this course. These studies typically require 30 minutes to 1 hour of your time. You are encouraged to participate in psychological research 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 experiments at http://cofc.sona-systems.com. In order to satisfy the research experience requirement for this course and earn these points toward your grade, you will need to earn 6 research credits. At least 2 of these research credits must be earned prior to April 2 (Spring semester) or October 22 (Fall semester) or you will be penalized a portion of your grade. You will earn 1 credit for each study that is 30 minutes or less in length, and 2 credits for any study greater than 30 minutes and less than an hour, and so forth. Be sure to attend experiments for which you sign-up or call to cancel ahead of time. Otherwise, you will be penalized by losing 1 credit (in addition to not receiving any credit for the experiment). Any student who fails to show up without cancelling twice will no longer be allowed to sign-up for psychology experiments.

How to get started?
1) Go to http://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 experiments. See http://psychology.cofc.edu/student-ops/research_requirement/103_docs/under_18.

How to schedule an experiment?
1) Login at http://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 are no studies to choose from. If that is the case, check back later.
4) You will receive an email confirmation of your sign-up.

B. Journal Article Review

You may prefer not to participate in psychological experiments. Instead, you have the option of earning your research credits by reading and reviewing approved journal articles on psychological research. Approved journal articles are available through the OAKS portal. 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. Note that you may choose to fulfill your requirement by any combination of participating in experiments and reviewing journal articles so long as a total of 6 research credits are earned. 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) Download the article you want to read
7) 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 information about, including your rights and responsibilities as a research participant, see http://psychology.cofc.edu/student-ops/research_requirement/students.php.