

**Scott N Cole, PhD, FHEA**

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Personal academic website: [www.scottcole.co.uk](http://www.scottcole.co.uk)

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**Current Position:** Associate Professor, York St. John University

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**SUMMARY OF RESEARCH, SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT**

My principal research interest concerns future-oriented cognition. Specifically, my research aims to develop a greater understanding of '*future thinking*'; an area of study with ramifications for cognitive, clinical and health psychology. I have supervised several postgraduates to completion, examined international PhD students, and in my current role as Postgraduate Research Lead for our School (76 postgraduates; >200 supervisors), I have worked effectively with the University Research Office, postgraduate students and staff to enhance support, training, and advocating for research students. Students in our School report high satisfaction ratings for the training, support and supervision experience.

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Associate Professor (York St. John University)** **Sept, 2022 - Present**

Main Research Role: Co-School Postgraduate Lead for Education, Language and Psychology School.

- Managing postgraduate recruitment, applications, interviews, annual student reviews, progression, and examinations.
- developing postgraduate student guidance (especially around research funding), building student community, and identifying and filling gaps in training.

Teaching:

- Module Leader for Neuropsychology (Optional Year 3 Module), previously Psychology Research lead and module lead for the main Research Methods and Statistics module (Masters).

Administrative Roles:

- Chair of School Research Ethics Committee, Chair of Undergraduate Psychology Committee (2020-Present), Chair of Psychology Research Committee (2021-Present), Psychology Recruitment Officer (2018-2020).

**Lecturer (York St. John University)** **Sept, 2015-Sept, 2018**

Module Leader: Cognition (Year 1 1, 2019+), Cognitive Psychology (Year 2, 2015-2019), Neuropsychology (Optional Year 3 Module), Dissertation Module (all Year 3 students, organizing workshops etc.)

**Associate Lecturer (Residential School-Open University)** **2010-2012**

Year 3 Projects. Lead Supervisor of around 6 cognitive psychology small group projects (consisting of 1-3 students), designing and conducting experiments. Included individuals from diverse backgrounds including those with special needs.

**Associate Lecturer (Leeds Beckett University)** **2009-2012**

Year 1 Research Methods Practicals: Lab-based statistics teaching using SPSS. Involves leading weekly teaching sessions and assessment of Laboratory Reports.

**Postgraduate Teaching Assistant (University of Leeds)** 2008-2012

Level 1 Research Methods Seminars, including assessing and giving formative feedback on Practical Reports. Year 2 Teaching Assistant on Mini Projects (cognitive psychology). Year 3 project supervision on a PhD experiment, the data from which led to a Rapid Communication on Trial Durations (Cole et al., 2012)

**English Teacher (University of Hubei, China)** 2004-2005

Included designing and running oral English classes for a range of undergraduate and postgraduate classes (inc. world studies, psychology) at a Chinese University.

**EDUCATION**

*PhD* Psychology (University of Leeds), 2008-2012

*MSc* Memory and its Disorders (University of Leeds) *Distinction* 2006-2007

*BSc* Psychology (University of Liverpool) 2:1 2000-2003

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**SELECTED JOURNAL ARTICLES**

Öner, S., Watson, L. A., **Cole, S. N.** & Szpunar, K. K. (2025) Spatial Optimism in Individuals' Future Thinking about the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Applied Cognitive Psychology* (Accepted)

**Commented [1]:** This also seems to be a big thing in academia. Shouldn't it be more up ?

McClure, J. H. C., Elwell, C., Jones, T., Mirković, J., & **Cole, S. N.** (2024). On second thoughts: Testing the underlying mechanisms of spontaneous future thought. *Cognition*, 250, 105863. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2024.105863>

**Cole, S.N.**, Markostamou, I., Watson, L. A., Barzykowski, K., Ergen, I., Taylor, A. & Öner, S. (2022). Spontaneous past and future thinking about the COVID-19 pandemic across 14 countries: Effects of individual and country-level COVID-19 impact indicators. *Journal of Applied Research on Memory and Cognition*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/mac0000071>

Öner, S., Watson, L. A., Adıgüzel, Z., Ergen, I., Bilgin, E., Curci, A., **Cole, S. N.**, et al., (2022). Collective remembering and forecasting during the COVID-19 pandemic: How the impact of COVID-19 affected the themes and phenomenology of global and national memories across 15 countries. *Memory & Cognition*. . <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13421-022-01329-8>

**Cole, S. N.**, Smith, D. M., Ragan, K., Suurmond, R. & Armitage, C. J. (2021). [Synthesizing Effects of Mental Simulation on Behavior Change: Systematic Review and Multilevel Meta-Analysis](#). *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, 28, 1514–1537. doi : <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13423-021-01880-6> ([link to OSF page](#))

**Cole, S. N.** & Kvavilashvili, L. (2021). [Spontaneous and deliberate future thinking: a dual process account](#). *Psychological Research*, 85, 464-479. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00426-019-01262-7>

**Cole, S. N. & Kvavilashvili, L.** (2019) Spontaneous future cognition: The past, present and future of an emerging topic. *Psychological Research*, 83 (4), DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00426-019-01193-3>

**Cole, S. N., Staugaard, S., & Berntsen, D.** (2016). Inducing Involuntary and Voluntary Mental Time Travel using a laboratory paradigm. *Memory and Cognition*, 44, 376-389. doi: [10.3758/s13421-015-0564-9](https://doi.org/10.3758/s13421-015-0564-9)

## GRANTS

Obtained: Experimental Psychological Society (EPS) (£4400); VIP Fellowship Grant Ruhr University (£3500); EPS (£3500); EPS (£2250)

Submitted: Leverhulme (£256106, 2nd Round); Templeton Trust (£255735); Velux (£620721); British Council (£49971); British Council ODA Challenge (£167321)

## GRADUATE STUDENT SUPERVISION

Richard Anderson, PhD 2024- Present

Spontaneous future thinking and goal attainment

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Ashleigh Van Zyl, PhD, 2023- Present

Collective mental time travel in South Africa

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Jessica Duffy, Communities Centre Scholarship (PhD), 2022 -Present

Prospection and Anxiety

Lewis McClure, Clinical Research Fellow (PhD), 2021 -Present

Informal carer experiences in context of dementia: a mixed methods examination of future thinking, mental health and the journey to becoming an expert in care

Helgi Clayton McClure, PhD, York St John University, 2018-Present  
(Passed, no corrections)

Spontaneous Future Cognition: Cognitive Mechanisms and Goal-Directed Functions.

Jessica Duffy, MRes Thesis, York St John University, passed 2019-2020

Frances Atkin, MRes Thesis, York St John University, passed 2019-2020

## GRANT REVIEWING

*International Expert Member of Reviewing Panel* – National Science Centre, Poland, 2022-Present. *Expert Reviewer* – ESRC (UKRI)

## PhD EXAMINING

External PhD examiner for Diane Lenormand (Cite University Paris) in December, 2024.

Internal PhD examiner for Chloe Metz (York St John University) in November, 2023.

External PhD examiner for Michał Wereszczyński (Jagiellonian University, Poland) in October, 2023.

External PhD examiner for Ayleen Roderer (University of Aarhus, Denmark) in December, 2022.

External PhD examiner for Jose Antonio Matías García (University of Seville, Spain) in March 2022.

External PhD examiner for Bronte McKeown (University of York) in August 2022.

#### RESEARCH SKILLS

Meta-analyses and systematic reviewing; Statistical expertise including SPSS, JAMOVI, JASP; Single case methodology and analysis; Supervising, Grant and Journal Paper Reviewing; Conference organising, leading research teams and grant administration as PI.