

# Kelly Cotton

Research Assistant Professor

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## Academic Appointments

Research Assistant Professor, Neurology 2025 - Present  
*Stony Brook University*

Postdoctoral Fellow, Neurology 2023 - 2025  
*Albert Einstein College of Medicine*

## Education

PhD, Psychology 2023  
*The Graduate Center, City University of New York*

MA, Psychology 2020  
*The Graduate Center, City University of New York*

BS, Brain and Cognitive Sciences 2015

BA, Linguistics 2015

*University of Rochester*

## Grants

Doctoral Student Research Grant, The Graduate Center, CUNY (\$1500) 2022  
*The impact of stress on the relationship between working memory and long-term memory*

Doctoral Student Research Grant, The Graduate Center, CUNY (\$1350) 2020  
*The role of creativity in the relationship between short-term consolidation and long-term memory*

## Fellowships, Honors, and Awards

Travel Fellowship Award, NEW Brain Aging Center 2024

Conference Presentation Travel Award, The Graduate Center, CUNY 2023

Psychology Travel Award, The Graduate Center, CUNY 2022

Psychology Fellowship, The Graduate Center, CUNY 2020

Data for Public Good Fellowship, The Graduate Center, CUNY 2020

Second Place Overall for "Project Fovea", NYC Media Lab '19 2019

Graduate Center Fellowship, The Graduate Center, CUNY 2018 - 2023

## Publications

Leroy, V., Chen, Y., Brocquet, E., Labreuche, J., Gaxatte, C., **Cotton, K.**, Roche, J., Huvent, D., & Puisieux, F. (2025). Is the FAB test associated with fall occurrence in older adults? A retrospective analysis of outpatient fall risk assessment. *European Geriatric Medicine*. doi:10.1007/s41999-024-01134-3

**Cotton, K.** & Verghese, J. (2025). Two Decades of the Walking While Talking Test: A Narrative Review. *Journal of the American Medical Directors Association*, 26(3). doi:10.1016/j.jamda.2024.105454

**Cotton, K.,** Sathyan, S., Jacob, S., Shaji, K.S., Ayers, E., Adhikari, D., Sigamani, A., Pradeep, V.G., & Verghese, J. (2025). Translation and validation of the Malayalam version of the Subjective Happiness Scale. *Social Indicators Research*, 176(1), 245-255. doi:10.1007/s11205-024-03448-y

**Cotton, K.,** Blumen, H.M., Ayers, E., Adhikari, D., Sigamani, A., Pradeep, V.G., & Verghese, J. (2024). Correlates and brain substrates of happiness in community-dwelling older adults in India. *Journals of Gerontology: Series B*, 79(12). doi:10.1093/geronb/gbae174

**Cotton, K.,** Shaji, K.S., Sathyan, S., Ayers, E., Adhikari, D., Ceide, M.E., Sigamani, A., Pradeep Kumar, V.G., & Verghese, J. (2024). Validation of the Malayalam version of the Apathy Evaluation Scale. *Indian Journal of Psychological Medicine*. doi:10.1177/02537176241276749

Pollak, C., **Cotton, K.,** Winter, J., & Blumen, H.M. (2024). Health outcomes associated with loneliness and social isolation in older adults living with HIV: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *AIDS and Behavior*, 29, 166-186. doi:10.1007/s10461-024-04471-3

**Cotton, K.,** Ayers, E., Jin, Y., Beauchet, O., Derby, C. A., Lipton, R. B., Katz, M., Galery, K., Gaudreau, P., Verghese, J. (2024). Elevated blood homocysteine increases the risk of incident Motoric Cognitive Risk syndrome: A two cohort study. *Journals of Gerontology: Series A*, 79(7). doi:10.1093/gerona/glae114

**Cotton, K.** & Verghese, J. (2024). Dementia in Taiwan. *Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics*, 121, 105415. doi:10.1016/j.archger.2024.105415

**Cotton, K.,** Sandry, J. & Ricker, T. J. (2024). The effect of mind-wandering, cognitive load and task engagement on working memory performance in remote online experiments. *Experimental Psychology*, 70(5), 271–284. doi:10.31234/osf.io/z7nju

\*Article selected as Editor's Choice

**Cotton, K.,** Sandry, J. & Ricker, T.J. (2023) Secondary task engagement drives the McCabe effect in long-term memory. *Memory & Cognition*, 52, 1762–1774. doi:10.3758/s13421-023-01450-2

**Cotton, K.** & Ricker, T.J. (2022). Is there a role of creativity in the relationship between working memory consolidation and long-term memory? *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*, 85(5), 1550–1565. doi:10.3758/s13414-022-02598-w

**Cotton, K.** & Ricker, T.J. (2022). Examining the relationship between working memory consolidation and long-term consolidation. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, 29(5), 1625-1648. doi:10.3758/s13423-022-02084-2

**Cotton, K.** & Ricker, T.J. (2021). Working memory consolidation improves long-term memory recognition. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*, 47(2), 208-219. doi:10.1037/xlm0000954

**Cotton, K.,** Verghese, J., & Blumen, H. M. (2020). Gray Matter Volume Covariance Networks, Social Support, and Cognition in Older Adults. *The Journals of Gerontology: Series B*, 75(6), 1219-1229. doi:10.1093/geronb/gbz023

\*Article selected as Editor's Choice

Mahoney, J. R., **Cotton, K.,** & Verghese, J. (2019). Multisensory integration predicts balance and falls in older adults. *The Journals of Gerontology: Series A*, 74(9), 1429-1435. doi:10.1093/gerona/gly245

Lin, F., Ren, P., **Cotton, K.,** Porsteinsson, A., Mapstone, M., & Heffner, K. L. (2016). Mental Fatigability and Heart Rate Variability in Mild Cognitive Impairment. *The American Journal of*

*Geriatric Psychiatry*, 24(5), 374-378. doi:10.1016/j.jagp.2015.12.012

## Invited Talks

**Cotton, K.** (2023, November). Exploring the causes and effects of happiness in aging. Geriatrics Grand Rounds, Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, New York.

**Cotton, K.** (2023, May). Working memory, memory working. Manhattan Center for Science and Math, New York, New York.

**Cotton, K.** (2022, March). Making working memory work. Biobus, New York, New York.

**Cotton, K.** (2022, February). Understanding the relationship between working memory and long-term memory. University of South Dakota, Vermillion, South Dakota.

**Cotton, K.** (2021, May). Consolidating a lasting memory. University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland.

## Teaching Experience

*Lehman College, City University of New York*  
Cognitive Psychology (Adjunct Instructor)

Spring - Fall 2021

*City College, City University of New York*  
Thinking, Knowing, Remembering (Teaching Assistant)

Fall 2019 - Spring 2022

## Mentorship

#=undergraduate, \$=high school

*Brooklyn College, City University of New York*

Liz Cortes<sup>#</sup>

2022 - 2023

- NIH Maximizing Access to Research Careers (MARC) Program participant

*Manhattan Center for Science and Mathematics*

Raymilka Rodriguez<sup>\$</sup>, Rosaura Pantaleon<sup>\$</sup>

2024 - 2025

*Biobus*

Ariel Andrade<sup>\$</sup>, Matthew Diaz<sup>\$</sup>

2023

Miles Larkin<sup>\$</sup>, Zion Irvine<sup>\$</sup>, Lisa Farley<sup>\$</sup>

2022

Lauren Conner<sup>\$</sup>, Chosen Archie<sup>\$</sup>, Hamza Alamgir<sup>\$</sup>

2021

## Additional Training

Online Teaching Essentials course

2021

ACUE Effective Teaching Practices course

2020

Teach@CUNY Summer Institute

2019

## Science Outreach

Science Communication Intern, *Psychonomic Society*

2023

Community Science Fellow, *BioBus*

2019 - 2023

Scientific Consultant, "Function" Youtube Series

2017 - 2020

## Professional Services and Activities

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Psychonomic Society (2019 - Present), Eastern Psychological Association (2022 - Present), Gerontological Society of America (2023 - Present)

### AD-HOC REVIEWER

Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science; Ageing International; BMC Psychology; Cognitive Systems Research; Journal of Experimental Psychology: General; Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition; Memory and Cognition; Journal of Cognition; Memory; Nature Scientific Reports; Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology; PLOS ONE

## Conference Presentations

First author # undergraduate or \$ high school mentee

**Cotton, K.**, Ayers, E., Jin, Y., Beauchet, O., Derby, C. A., Lipton, R. B., Katz, M., Galery, K., Gaudreau, P., Verghese, J. (2024, July). Elevated blood homocysteine increases the risk of incident Motoric Cognitive Risk syndrome: A two cohort study. Poster presented at the *24th Annual Alzheimer's Association International Conference*, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

**Cotton, K.**, Sandry, J., & Ricker, T. J. (2023, June). Working memory task engagement and the case of the McCabe effect. Talk presented at the *4th Annual Working Memory Symposium*, Virtual.

\$Andrade, A. & \$Diaz, M. (2023, June). Sonically stressed: The effect of stressful sounds on physiology and cognitive processes. Poster presented at *10th Annual Student Research Colloquium*, New York, New York.

**Cotton, K.** & Ricker, T. J. (2023, May). How does stress affect working memory consolidation? Talk presented at the *14th Annual Psychology Research Day*, Virtual.

#Cortes, L., **Cotton, K.**, & Chua, E. (2023, May). Subjective stress responses correlate with depression, anxiety, and stress symptoms. Poster presented at *32nd Annual Science Research Day*, Brooklyn, New York.

**Cotton, K.** & Ricker, T. J. (2022, November). How does stress affect working memory consolidation? Poster presented at the *63rd Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*, Boston, Massachusetts.

Dayalu, V., Hebert, K., Grabowski, C., **Cotton, K.**, & Patel, S. (2022, November). Examining the relationship between task-switching and speech errors in Parkinson's disease. Poster presented at the *99th Annual Meeting of the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine*, Chicago, Illinois.

**Cotton, K.**, Sandry, J., & Ricker, T. J. (2022, June). How does mind-wandering influence working memory performance across cognitive load and environmental conditions? Talk presented at the *3rd Annual Working Memory Symposium*, Virtual.

\$Irvine, Z. & \$Larkin, M. (2022, June). Music and the brain. Poster presented at *9th Annual Student Research Colloquium*, New York, New York.

\$Farley, L. (2022, June). The effects of age on cognitive processing. Poster presented at *9th Annual Student Research Colloquium*, New York, New York.

**Cotton, K.,** Sandry, J., & Ricker, T.J. (2022, March). Mind-wandering and cognitive load effects on working memory performance across experimental contexts. Poster presented at *93rd Annual Eastern Psychological Association*, New York, New York.

**Cotton, K. & Ricker, T. J.** (2021, November). How do mind-wandering, cognitive load, and environment affect working memory? Poster presented at the *Annual Harvard Women in Psychology Trends in Psychology Summit*, Virtual.

McCray, M.M., **Cotton, K. & Ricker, T. J.** (2021, November). Predicting Working Memory Performance: Is Perceived Workload a Better Predictor Than Cognitive Load? Poster presented at the *Annual Harvard Women in Psychology Trends in Psychology Summit*, Virtual.

**Cotton, K. & Ricker, T. J.** (2021, November). The effect of mind-wandering and cognitive load on working memory performance in online and in-person experiments. Poster presented at the *62nd Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*, Virtual.

McCray, M.M., **Cotton, K. & Ricker, T. J.** (2021, November). Working Memory Performance: Is Subjective Measurement a Better Predictor than Cognitive Load? Poster presented at the *62nd Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*, Virtual.

Koorathota, S., Adelman, P., **Cotton, K., & Sajda, P.** (2021, October). Editing Like Humans: A Contextual, Multimodal Framework for Automated Video Editing. Talk presented at the *AI for Creative Video Editing and Understanding*, Virtual.

McCray, M.M., **Cotton, K., & Ricker, T.J.** (2021, September). Does perceived workload better predict working memory performance than cognitive load? Poster presented at *South Dakota Psychological Association Annual Conference*, Rapid City, South Dakota.

Koorathota, S., Adelman, P., **Cotton, K., & Sajda, P.** (2021, June). Editing Like Humans: A Contextual, Multimodal Framework for Automated Video Editing. Talk presented at the *IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*, Virtual.

**Cotton, K. & Ricker, T. J.** (2021, June). Consolidating a lasting memory: The role of creativity in the relationship between working memory and long-term memory. Talk presented at the *2nd Annual Virtual Working Memory Symposium*, Virtual.

\$Alamir, H., \$Archie, C. & \$Conner, L. (2021, June) The effect of fast, medium and slow tempo classical music on working memory and processing speed. Talk presented at *BioBus Junior Scientist Research Symposium*, Virtual.

**Cotton, K. & Ricker, T. J.** (2021, May). Does creativity influence working memory effects on long-term memory? Talk presented at the *12th Annual Psychology Research Day*, Virtual.

**Cotton, K. & Ricker, T. J.** (2020, November). The Role of Creativity in the Relationship between Working Memory Consolidation and Long-Term Memory. Poster presented at the *61st Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*, Virtual.

**Cotton, K. & Ricker, T. J.** (2019, November). Working Memory Consolidation Improves Long-Term Memory Recognition in Words and Non-words. Poster presented at the *60th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

**Cotton, K. & Ricker, T. J.** (2019, October). Working Memory Consolidation Improves Long-Term Memory Recognition. Talk presented at the *Cognitive and Comparative Psychology Colloquium*, Graduate Center of the City University of New York, New York, New York.

Koorathota, M., Adelman, P., & **Cotton, K.** (2019, September). Project Fovea: Attention-Guided Video Production. Poster presented at the *NYC Media Lab Demo Expo*, New York, New York.

**Cotton, K.**, Jacobs, A., Ren, P., & Lin, F. (2015, November). Mechanisms Linking Depression and Cognitive Impairment: A Systematic Review of Neuroimaging Studies. Poster presented at the *Annual Meeting of The Gerontological Society of America*, Orlando, Florida.