

A Level Spanish

What is A Level Spanish?

This course is for students who wish to build on the language skills gained at GCSE and on their knowledge of the societies and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries.

Why study Spanish?

In addition to general study skills, you will learn to communicate at a higher level in the language. You will learn much more about a wide range of aspects of the societies in which the language is spoken. Spanish is one of the most widely-spoken languages in the world, and is an official language of the European Union and the United Nations.

To study this course, what qualifications will I need?

Students will normally have achieved at least the equivalent of GCSE grade 5 in Spanish. Successful students make Spanish a part of their lives, developing an interest in Spanish culture, film, music, current affairs, and establishing personal connections in their own time.

What is the structure of the course?

A Level topics	
<p>Being a young person in Spanish-speaking society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families and citizenship <p><i>Changing family structures; the changing nature of marriage and partnership; being a good citizen</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth trends and personal identity <p><i>Fashion; modern technology; relationships, peer pressure</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education and employment opportunities <p><i>The education system issues; work and travel</i></p>	<p>Understanding the Spanish-speaking world</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional culture and heritage in Spain, Spanish-speaking countries and communities <p><i>Festivals; customs and traditions; historical sites; museums and galleries</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Media, art, film and music in the Spanish-speaking world <p><i>Trends in media and art; film and music in the lives of young people</i></p>
<p>Diversity and difference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Migration and integration Cultural identity and marginalisation Cultural enrichment and celebrating difference Discrimination and diversity 	<p>The two Spains: 1936 onwards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> El franquismo: <i>origins, development and consequences</i> Post-Civil War Spain – historical and political repercussions <p><i>Control, repression and daily life in Franco's Spain</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spain – coming to terms with the past?

Assessment
<p>Component 1: Speaking - non-exam assessment: 21-23 mins incl. 5 mins preparation (30% of qualification)</p> <p>Task 1: (a) presentation of independent research project (b) discussion on the content of the research project</p> <p>Task 2: discussion based on a stimulus card relating to one of the themes studied</p>
<p>Component 2: Listening, Reading and Translation - written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes (50% of qualification)</p>
<p>Component 3: Critical and analytical response in writing - written examination: 2 hours (20% of qualification)</p> <p>Two essays – one based on a literary work and the second on an additional literary work or film</p>

What kind of career does this course prepare me for?

A language at A Level will improve your employability, in particular with companies with international branches. The course would appeal to those interested in language and communication, other cultures and ways of life, business, travel, literature, journalism, the media and international affairs. Many opportunities will be open to you, where you can continue to use and develop your language skills. Some students go on to a degree course in languages, literature and/or applied languages (translating, interpreting); others pursue a course in another subject, for example Law or Business Studies, but study a language alongside it. Young people from the UK are increasingly opting to study abroad.