

Course Outline

A Level Spanish builds on your knowledge, understanding and skills gained at GCSE. You will gain an insight into the contemporary society and culture of Spanish-speaking countries, including Hispanic music, cinema, politics, immigration and cultural heritage.

This course will also develop your language skills and you will have individual Spanish conversation with a teacher or native speaker. During your A Level course, you will study a Spanish text and film, and have the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of your choice.

This course fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity, which are invaluable to you, any future employer and society.

By the end of the course, you will leave us being able to communicate confidently and imaginatively in a foreign language. You will be in a good position to undertake further, advanced study of Spanish or use it to your advantage in employment.

Who would be a successful student of Spanish?

This course will appeal to students who would enjoy the challenge of speaking to native speakers of Spanish in their own language. You should also enjoy taking part in in-depth discussions, expressing your opinions, and justifying these in debate. You may be considering further study or working in another European / Latin American country.

Career Opportunities

The study of Spanish compliments all future career paths and can open doors for you in the future, in whichever industry you decide to go into.

A modern language is a truly useful ancillary skill for businesses and there is a wide range of opportunities in the workplace for those who can combine any subject or skill with a modern foreign language. Employers are very keen to recruit language graduates in a range of exciting careers such as:

- law
- any business pathway such as accountancy, marketing, finance...
- medicine
- teaching
- journalism and broadcasting
- public sector
- interpreting
- translating
- travel and tourism

Extra-Curricular Activities

In the past these have included trips to Spain, theatre shows and film days plus university conferences conducted entirely in Spanish. You would also be welcome to help us with lower school language lessons and MFL club.

Course Content

A Level consists of modules centred on the following topic areas:

- Aspects of Hispanic society
- Multiculturalism in the Hispanic society
- Artistic culture in the Hispanic world
- Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world

These will include discussions about:

- Modern and traditional values
- Cyberspace
- Equal rights
- Immigration
- Racism
- (Social) integration
- Modern-day idols
- Spanish regional identity
- Cultural heritage
- Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens
- Monarchies and dictatorships
- Popular movements

Assessment tasks will be varied and cover listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Each skill is assessed at the end of the course in a terminal examination.

There are 3 exam papers sat at the end of the two-year course:

- Paper 1: Reading, Listening and Translation; worth 50% of total A Level
- Paper 2: Writing (about a Hispanic text and film); worth 20% of total A Level
- Paper 3: Speaking based on an individual research project and one of the 4 themes listed above; 30% of marks