

Spanish

Qualification: A-Level Spanish
Additional Entry Information: GCSE English Language grade B
GCSE Spanish grade B
Speak to **Señora V Fernández** for more information.

What do students need to know or be able to do before taking the course?

With over 400 million Spanish speakers, official status in 21 countries and ranked as the second most spoken language in the world in terms of native speakers, Spanish is consistently seen as one of the most important languages to learn. Studying Spanish offers students a vast range of diverse cultures and countries to explore, across several continents. With many Spanish countries experiencing vast economic growth and becoming world trade partners, many businesses are now increasingly favouring job candidates with Spanish skills.

Hispanic culture is renowned for having a rich, historic and cultural heritage such as fine art, literature, gastronomy, cinema and music. With a diverse range of eminent Scientists and Inventors, studying Spanish allows you to access the arts as well as the sciences.

What will students learn on this course (skills and course content)?

Throughout the course, students will broaden their understanding of modern day Spain as well as current global issues. They will also absorb an understanding of Spanish history, literature and the rich cultural differences of the Spanish-speaking world. Students will learn to express opinions, analyse themes and develop clear and justified arguments.

What sort of student is this course suitable for?

If you are interested in exploring the Hispanic world, studying the challenges facing Spaniards today or enhancing your future travel experiences, then Spanish is the subject for you.

What kind of work will students need to be able to do outside of lessons?

Pupils will have lessons with the Spanish Language Assistant to enhance their oral skills and to prepare for their written assessment. Pupils will be encouraged to participate in departmental activities — competitions, language days, debates, buddies....

What is the course content and how is this assessed?

You will study the following topics in class using a variety of up to date resources: text books, video, listening, articles, websites, songs, etc.

Year 1 (AS Level)

Theme 1: (AS) Being a young person in Spanish-speaking society

Family structures, traditional and modern values, friendships / relationships. Youth trends, issues and personal identity. Educational and employment opportunities



Theme 2: Understanding the Spanish-speaking world

Regional culture and heritage in Spain, Spanish-speaking countries and communities. Literature, art, film and music in the Spanish-speaking world

Year 2 (A Level)

Theme 3: Diversity and difference

Migration and integration. Cultural identity and marginalisation. Cultural enrichment and celebrating difference. Discrimination and diversity.

Theme 4: The Two Spains, 1936 onwards

El franquismo – origins, development and consequences. Post-Civil War Spain – historical and political repercussions. The Spanish Civil War and the transition to democracy (represented in the arts, cinema, literature, art and photography)

Spain – coming to terms with the past? "Recuperación de la memoria histórica"

In addition, you will study one film and one text.

Method of Assessment

AS Unit 1

Speaking assessment, 15 minutes (plus additional 15 minutes preparation time), 12% of qualification

Task 1: Arguing a point of view based on a written stimulus card (5-6 minutes)

Task 2: Discussion based on a second written stimulus card (7-9 minutes)

AS Unit 2 (2h 30 minutes)

Listening, reading, translation (Spanish into English) and critical response in writing. 28% of qualification

A2 Unit 3

Speaking assessment. 11-12 minutes. 18% of qualification

Independent research project

Task 1: Presentation of independent research project (2 minutes)

Task 2: Discussion on the content of the independent research project (9-10 minutes)

A2 Unit 4 (1 h 45 minutes)

Listening, reading and translation (English into Spanish) 30% of qualification



A2 Unit 5 (1h 30 minutes)

Critical and analytical response in writing (closed-book). 12% of qualification

One essay question–based on the study of one literary work taken from the prescribed list

What could students go on to do at the end of this course?

Apart from the enjoyment of being able to understand and speak a foreign language, the Spanish A level course is both academic and culturally enriching. Spanish has tremendous kudos with both universities and employers and it can be combined with virtually any university course you can think of from Economics to Environmental Sciences. It may open up possibilities if you are planning to do a year abroad as part of your degree: for example a year in South America studying, working or travelling can be a wonderful experience.

Some examples of career paths:

- Broadcast Journalist
- Legal Sector
- Interpreter / Translator
- Publishing Sector
- Marketing Executive
- Medical Fields
- Secondary School Teacher
- Broadcast, Film, DVD and Interactive Media Sector
- Diplomatic Services Operational Officer
- Logistics and distribution manager
- Politics

