

SPANISH

« Cree en ti y todo será posible »

Teaching Staff:

Miss H Brown – Head of MFL

Examination board and syllabus:

AQA Level 3 A-Level (7692)

Entrance requirement:

Spanish GCSE Grade 7 or above or other background in speaking Spanish may be considered

Why study Spanish at A-Level?

Spanish is:

- The second most spoken language around the world with over 470 million native speakers.
- The second most used language on the internet.
- A language that is becoming increasingly more used in international media thanks to apps such as Spotify and Netflix.
- A great base to go on and study other 'Romance' languages including French and Italian.
- Considered a 'facilitating subject', subjects that many universities, notably Oxbridge and the Russell Groups universities expect you to have for at least two of your A-Levels subjects.

The course outline:

The main themes of the course are as follows, with themes 1 and 2 taught in Year 12 and themes 3 and 4 taught in Year 13.

1. Aspects of Hispanic society (modern and traditional values, cyberspace, equal rights)
2. Artistic culture in the Hispanic world (modern day idols, Spanish regional identity, cultural heritage)
3. Multiculturalism in Hispanic society (immigration, racism, integration)
4. Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world (today's youth – tomorrow's citizens, monarchies and dictatorships, popular movements)

You will complete a literature and a film study:

Film study: Volver (Y12)

Literature : La Casa de Bernarda Alba (Y13)

You will also work on an Independent Research Project (IRP) as part of your final speaking exam, in which you can investigate any aspect of Hispanic culture which interests you.

The course assessment:

Number of Unit	% of A2	Coursework / Examination	Length	Timing
Paper 1	50%	Listening, reading & translation paper.	2.5 hours	Summer of Y13
Paper 2	20%	Written response to the book and film.	2 hours	Summer of Y13
Paper 3	30%	Discussion of one of the themes & IRP	21-23 mins	Summer of Y13

Due to its breadth and scope, A level Spanish represents the ideal subject to complement any programme of study at sixth form. Whether you are looking for an additional arts subject or a contrasting subject alongside science A levels, A level Spanish will provide you with transferable skills, a deep understanding of life and society across the whole Spanish speaking world and a meaningful level of fluency in a language highly sought after by employers.

As you can see from the range of topics studied, A level Spanish includes elements of history, geography, sociology, politics, music, literature, media studies and film studies. Students find that choosing A level Spanish actually deepens their understanding of their other subjects. One of the key differences between GCSE and A-Level is that at GCSE level, we spend most of the time describing our own personal experiences in the 1st person, at A-Level we use a range of grammar and vocabulary to talk about the experiences of others across the Spanish speaking world. Questions we will look at throughout the course include, "how prevalent does machismo continue to be in the Hispanic world?", "are British immigrants integrated into Spanish society?" and "how does the work of Spanish artists represent key moments in history."

All four skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) are progressed simultaneously through use of the target language in class and a broad variety of activities and resources. There is a textbook, but this is supplemented with 'real' resources from the internet, magazines or newspapers and you will often see snippets from up-to-date Spanish speaking social media accounts appearing in your lessons.

As part of the course, we revisit all necessary grammar to ensure that you have a solid understanding of and ability to manipulate the Spanish language in much greater depth than at GCSE in order to increase your complexity of language.

Students relish the challenge of this exciting A level and we offer a wide range of support both inside and outside of lessons to help students to succeed. Our aim is that you will finish your Spanish A Level feeling inspired, proud and ready to take on the world, wherever life may take you.

CAREERS

Law, Finance, Journalism, International jobs in business and industry, translation work, teaching – due to the high level of transferable skills and the breadth of the topic areas, a languages A level provides a great foundation for any career or degree study as well as opening up the possibility of working and studying abroad.