SPANISH (AQA)



INTRODUCTION

- The A-level Spanish course comprises stimulating content to enable students to develop their linguistic skills alongside their understanding of the culture and society of the countries where Spanish is spoken
- Spanish is the third most widely spoken language on Earth after Chinese and English
- There are 33 countries in the world that list Spanish as an official language
- Spanish is one of the six official languages of the United Nations
- You will be taught by 2 teachers for 7 periods a week
- In addition, you will have a compulsory Speaking lesson with a native language assistant (a total of 8 periods of study)

Entry Requirements - Candidates must achieve a Grade 7 at GCSE level

Exam Board and Specification – AQA

MAIN TOPICS

Social Issues and Trends

- Modern and traditional values (Los valores tradicionales y modernos)
- Cyberspace (El ciberespacio)
- Equal rights (La igualdad de los sexos)

Artistic Culture in The Hispanic World

- Modern day idols (La influencia de los ídolos)
- Spanish regional identity (La identidad regional en España)
- Cultural heritage or cultural landscape (El patrimonio cultural)

Multiculturalism in Hispanic Society

- Immigration (La Inmigración)
- Racism (El Racismo)
- Integration (La Convivencia)

Aspects of Political Life In The Hispanic World

- Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens (Jóvenes de hoy, ciudadanos de mañana)
- Monarchies, republics and dictatorships (Monarquías, repúblicas y dictaduras)
- Popular movements (Movimientos populares)

In depth knowledge of a film or text as specified by your teacher

In addition to the aforementioned topics you will also study either a book or a film in Y12 and a play in Y13.

FILM:
El laberinto del fauno - Pan's Labyrinth - by Guillermo Del Toro

LITERATURE:
La casa de Bernarda Alba –The house of Bernarda Alba – a play by Federico García Lorca

KEY SKILLS

- Knowledge of the grammar and structures specified for GCSE must be secure
- Understand and respond to authentic written and spoken material
- Ability to write and speak spontaneously in Spanish
- Show knowledge and understanding of, and respond critically to, different aspects of the culture and society of countries/communities where the language is spoken

ASSESSMENT
Assessment tasks will be varied and cover listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. There is no coursework for A-level Spanish. All assessment is completed in public exams during the summer public exams session. An external examiner will carry out the oral exam and this can take place any time during a 5-week window in April-May as prescribed by AQA.

A-LEVEL EXAMS
Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing (no dictionary permitted) **Exam duration:** 2hr30mins; Weighting of paper: 40%

Paper 2: Writing (no dictionary permitted or access to the text studied) **Exam duration:** 2h; Weighting of paper: 30%

Paper 3: Speaking (no dictionary permitted)
Exam duration: 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes supervised preparation time)

Oxbridge

The Spanish department supports students that are applying to Oxbridge by:

- Checking and advising on the content of their personal statements
- Marking past admission tests they do as mark schemes are not always available for students
- Seeing students 1:1 to give verbal feedback, answer any question they have and help them to prepare for interviews

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Cinema trips, Theatre trips, Art Gallery trips, Museum trips, Lunch time activities

EDUCATIONAL TRIP TO VALENCIA

Students will stay in Valencia for a week with host families and attend lessons in Taronja Spanish School. The main focus will be improving their speaking skills and widening their cultural capital. In addition, they will take part in fun workshops such as paella cooking and Latin dance, as well as go on interesting visits to explore the city and learn more about Spanish culture.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

A selection of possible careers available to those with Spanish degrees:

- Education: School Teacher, University Lecturer, Language/Class Assistant
- Business: International relations Consultant, Foreign Correspondent, Proof-reader Importer/Exporter, International Account Manager, International Banking Officer, Bilingual customer support
- Culture/Tourism: Cultural Events Coordinator, Travel Agent, Translator/Interpreter/Guide
- Government: National Security Agent, Immigration Officer, Court Interpreter, Cultural Attaché, UNESCO Official, Translator/Interpreter, Foreign Diplomat , Foreign Service Officer

