

Spanish

Awarding body: Assessment and Qualifications Alliance (AQA)

Qualification: A/S and A Level

Method of assessment: Examination

Course entry requirement: GCSE grade 6 in Spanish

Course description and what it will be like: A Level Spanish aims to develop the knowledge and skills acquired at GCSE level and use the language learned in a wide range of different contexts. Students will be able to gain a useful insight into another culture and reflect upon aspects of contemporary society. Through studying A Level Spanish students will have the opportunity to enhance their employment prospects, facilitate foreign travel and experience the enjoyment and motivation of improving their linguistic abilities.

The AS course covers 2 broad themes: Aspects of Hispanic Society and Artistic culture in the Hispanic World. At AS level the speaking assessment is a discussion on both of the AS level themes. Students will also study a book or film from a set texts/works list and analyse this on the writing paper.

Study for the A level course is based on 4 broad themes; Aspects of Hispanic Society, Artistic culture in the Hispanic World, Multiculturalism in Hispanic Society, and Aspects of political life in Hispanic Society. At A level the speaking assessment is a discussion on one of the A level themes and the presentation and discussion on an individual research project. Students will also study a book and film or two books from a set texts/works list and analyse these on the writing paper.

Students will follow a course book and will also use authentic and up to date material from the media (internet, newspapers, radio, television). Knowledge and application of grammar will be examined on all papers.

Specification and Units of Study:		% of Total AS/A Level Marks
Paper 1 : Listening, Reading & Writing	AS level 1 hour 45 minutes written examination June (90 marks)	45%
	A level 2 hours 30 minutes June Y13 (100 marks)	50%
Paper 2 : Writing	AS level 1 hour 30 minutes written examination June (50 marks)	25%
	A level 2 hour written examination June Y13 (80 marks)	20%
Paper 3 : Speaking	AS level 12-14 minutes June (60 marks)	30%
	A level 21-23 minutes June Y13 (60 marks)	30%

Opportunities for Progression and Career Prospects:

As part of the European Union, we can choose to live, work and study in one of 27 countries, Spain being one of them. Spanish is spoken in most of South and Central America, and much of the United States of America. Speakers of Spanish in particular therefore have a vast array of opportunities open to them, considering the size of 'El mundo hispanohablante'. Speaking another language is a huge factor in how successful we are in the future. Graduates with languages are very employable. Employers recognise linguists' skills beyond pure language ability, such as communication, organisation, cultural awareness and independence. In fact, graduates with knowledge of a foreign language are likely to earn more than graduates from other sectors.

At higher education level, it is possible to study a degree purely in languages or you can opt to combine a language with a different subject, such as politics or business. Both options will involve spending a period of time abroad, either working or studying.

Choosing a language as part of your course will not only develop your expertise and linguistic ability, but you will also have some great experiences along the way!

Languages are not just required for careers in translation and interpreting or teaching. They can also be used in a wide variety of job sectors, such as creative and media, event management, health and social care, law, manufacturing, retail, travel and tourism, marketing, technology and computer gaming.

For more information on careers with languages, visit the website **www.languageswork.org.uk**.