Spanish

COURSE OVERVIEW

Spanish is one of the world's most spoken language with 400 million Spanish speakers and it is also the main language in 21 countries. This makes the language very useful for further education and employment. This course does not only improve the language skills but will give an insight into the culture, history and beliefs that shape the countries where Spanish is spoken.

The topics covered in this course include:

-Family, influence of the Catholic religion, cybersociety, equal rights.
- Immigration, racism, integration.
- Modern day idols/celebrities.
- Customs and traditions, gastronomy and languages.
- Tourist sites, art, architecture, music, cinema and entertainment.
- Political involvement of young people, monarchies and dictatorship, popular movements.
- The study of a book and a film

There is also the opportunity to study any topic of interest relating to one of the Spanish-speaking countries to present during the speaking exam.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

This A Level builds on the skills learnt at GCSE. It also offers the opportunity to study the society of Spanish-speaking countries.

Language specific skills:

- Use language spontaneously, develop arguments, analyse, and evaluate in writing and speaking.
- Applying knowledge of pronunciation.
- Listening and responding to a variety of authentic texts and sources.
- Inferring meaning from complex spoken and written texts.
- Translating both ways.

Transferable skills:

- Developing research skills in Spanish, demonstrating the ability to initiate and conduct individual research on a subject of personal interest.
- Using information to illustrate knowledge and understanding.
- Analysing and summarise research findings, and presenting finding through oral presentation, debate, and discussion.
- Critical thinking

Qualification: **A-Level**

Awarding Body: **AQA**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

A Spanish A-Level is assessed through three papers:

Paper 1: listening, reading, and writing 60% (2.5 hours, 100 marks)

Paper 2: Writing exam on the book or film studied. 20% (2 hours, 30 marks)

Paper 3: Speaking exam 30% (21-23 minutes, 60 marks)

OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

With our world becoming more globalised by the day, the ability to speak another language, even if only to A-Level, can open many doors in your career and academic life. You could go on to a specialist language degree, but universities and employers are always keen on finding candidates who have a language qualification at any level. Employers like taking on graduates who have a second or even a third language and their salary can be higher by 8 to 20%. Here are only a few examples of careers where languages are needed or useful:

International law and government
Management and Marketing
Travel and Tourism
Translation
Engineering
Teaching
Medicine

'I chose Spanish because I would like to possibly develop a future career in languages or working abroad but I am not sure what I want to do yet. I like learning languages to develop an understanding of other cultures. At GCSE, I thought Spanish was fun and very enjoyable and therefore wanted to continue.'