



AS LEVEL SPANISH

The AS Level Spanish course enables students to continue the study of a subject they have enjoyed as a GCSE whilst allowing them to focus on other key areas such as science, the arts or humanities as their full A levels.

What does the course involve?

The course aims to:

- Develop awareness of the culture and society of Spain and Spanish speaking countries.
- Provide a range of stimulating and absorbing study topics with contemporary, literary and cultural content
- Extend students intellectually and develop general study skills.
- Provide an ability to communicate readily in Spanish for a variety of purposes
- Prepare students to use their Spanish for the purposes of work, further study, training or leisure.
- Be enjoyable, interesting and relevant to the students' needs.

Activities are varied and include role play, debate, group and individual presentations, plus more formal work such as text exploitation and translation. There is regular and varied use of ICT.

Resources include textbooks, newspapers, magazines, films, vocabulary books, grammar notebooks, online resources, films and a whole range of online information and worksheets.

What exams and coursework are involved?

The course is examined at the end of year 12. There is no coursework element. Students will study a film with the guidance of their teachers.

Paper 1: Listening and reading questions plus translation into English - 1 hr 45 – 90 marks (45% of A level)

Paper 2: Writing – 1 hr 30 - 50 marks (25% of A level)

Students write one essay, normally on a film and do a translation task into Spanish

Paper 3: Speaking 12 -14 mins + 15 mins prep time – 60 marks (30% of A level)

Discussion of two sub-themes (6–7 minutes on each) with the discussion based on a stimulus card for each sub-theme. The student studies the cards for 15 minutes before the test begins.

YEAR 12

Topics include:

- Modern and Traditional values;
- Cyberspace;
- Equal Rights;
- Modern day idols; Spanish regional identity;
- Cultural heritage or cultural landscape.

What are the entry qualifications?

- GCSE grade 5 in both Spanish and English Language.
- A willingness to work and study independently and learn vocabulary.
- A willingness to join in discussions and be open to ideas.
- A keen interest in the Spanish language and world affairs.

What could I do after completing the course?

An AS in a foreign language compliments all other subjects and selecting this course enables students to develop a wide range of transferrable skills such as autonomy, resourcefulness, creativity, critical thinking, and linguistic, cultural and cognitive flexibility. Students can gain a qualification in a subject they enjoyed at GCSE whilst focusing primarily on other subject areas such as sciences, arts or humanities. Students are still able to select a university course with a subsidiary language element, opening the possibility of a year abroad often in a work experience context, which offers amazing opportunities. Language skills are in demand and can be used in almost any career, particularly in businesses that trade internationally. Studying a language beyond GCSE enables students to develop their fluency and language skills as well as their understanding of matters central to the society and culture of countries where Spanish is spoken. Most degree courses appreciate people who have studied a language (even to AS level) and employers are desperate for students who show the skills, determination and cognitive abilities associated with language learning.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MS E KENNEDY OR MRS SILVA.