

Spanish

A Level



Overview

Studying Spanish will help students develop much-prized communication skills, that are so in demand by employers.

Students have the opportunity to develop their language skills in the College's well-resourced classrooms, with access to the latest multimedia technology.

In addition, language students benefit from timetabled lessons with a Foreign Language Assistant to help them become more confident and competent speakers.

All students will have the opportunity to

take part in a study trip to Spain, where they will stay with families, study the language for part of the day, and enjoy various activities – a great way to learn about Spanish culture and improve their speaking skills!

What goes well with this course?

Languages combine well with any subject. As well as offering pure language degrees, virtually all universities offer the chance to continue studying a language alongside another subject as part of a joint degree, or as a subsidiary subject.

Progression

In the workplace language skills are highly valued. In Higher Education, a single or joint honours degree in one or more languages, or in another subject plus a language, leads to greater employability – and the opportunity to perhaps work abroad.

Course Content

The course covers a wide variety of current issues over the two years. As well as revising and extending some of the topics studied at GCSE, students will learn about social and cultural themes within Hispanic society, including social values, equality and multiculturalism, regional identity and the influence of heritage, as well as studying aspects of politics and history.

In addition, students will study in depth both a film and a work of literature. Grammar and language skills are integrated into the topic areas.

Educational Experiences

Course Specific Trips, Visits & Experiences

Spanish A Level students have the opportunity to take part in a variety of course related experiences. In recent years, these have included:

- A week-long study trip to Spain; cities visited have been Salamanca, San Sebastian or Granada. Students attend classes at a dedicated language school, take part in cultural activities, and live with host families as paying guests
- Visits to UK universities for specific language events

Assessment

The exam is taken in May/June and consists of three papers, all externally assessed:

A speaking examination lasting approximately 18 minutes; a listening, reading and writing paper (2 hours 30 minutes); and an essay paper (2 hours).

The exam board for this A Level is AQA.

Entry Requirements

All students need to have at least five GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (and a satisfactory school reference) in order to be accepted on an A Level/BTEC Level 3 Programme.

In addition, students should meet the following minimum GCSE requirement:

- Grade 6 in Spanish and Grade 4 in English Language

Students will enjoy this course if they:

- Enjoy communicating through writing and speaking
- Have an interest in the culture of the Spanish speaking world
- Are thinking of travelling, taking a gap year, or working abroad