SPANISH
A Level - Edexcel

Sixth Form

Entry requirements?

For this subject you will need a minimum of Grade 7 in GCSE Spanish, Grade 5 in English Language or English Literature and Grade 4 in Mathematics. You must enjoy communicating in Spanish and have an interest in discovering more about the culture of Spanish-speaking countries.

What will I study?

Apart from consolidating and developing your current skills in Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing, you will learn about Spain and Latin America and cover topics exploring social issues and trends as well as political life and artistic culture. You will also study grammar in depth and a literary text **(La Casa de Bernada Alba by Federico García Lorca)** and a film **(Volver).** The A Level specification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained at GCSE. It fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity, which are valuable to the individual and society. The content is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or to further study, including a Modern Languages degree or a degree with Spanish as a subsidiary.

How will I be assessed?

There are termly assessments and internal examinations throughout the course. The final examination tests the following skills:

Listening, reading and writing

What's assessed:

- Aspects of Hispanic society
- Artistic culture in the Hispanic world
- Multiculturalism in Hispanic society
- Aspects of political life in Hispanic society
- Grammar

How it's assessed:

- Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- 100 marks in total
- 50% of A-level

Writing

What's assessed:

- One text and one film from the set list in the specification (see above in bold)
- Grammar

How it's assessed:

- Written exam: 2 hours
- 80 marks in total
- 20% of A-level

Speaking

What's assessed:

- Individual research project
- One of the four sub-themes:

Aspects of Hispanic society or
Artistic culture in the Hispanic world
or Multiculturalism in Hispanic society or Aspects of political life in Hispanic society

How it's assessed:

- Oral exam: 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time)
- 60 marks in total
- 30% of A-level

How will I study?

A Level is more than study. To do well at Spanish you need to be interested in finding out about the culture of Spanish-speaking countries. You will take part in discussions in class; do translations, summaries, reading and listening comprehensions; write essays and learn plenty of grammar and vocabulary. We expect you to take an interest in current affairs and listen to Euronews regularly to keep up to date with what is going on in the Hispanic world. You may want to spend some time abroad. This is a brilliant way of learning a foreign language.

What does the subject combine well with?

The beauty of Spanish and languages generally, is that they are desirable for most jobs. They can be combined with anything, eg. Media Studies, Mathematics, Law or PE. This is especially true at university level. Many Science and Engineering courses, for example, include language study and many universities send their students abroad for a year to study their chosen specialised subject and develop their language skills as well.

UK businesses suffer on an international level due to a lack of personnel with language skills. With an A Level in a language you will be a more attractive prospect both for universities and employers, and ultimately you could increase your earning potential.

¡Bienvenidos!