

# A LEVEL SPANISH

**A language captures the essence of what it means to belong to a culture, and during this two-year course, you will further delve into what encompasses life in a Hispanic country. Studying a language helps widen your career choice and broaden the way you look at life around you. As Nelson Mandela said 'If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language that goes to his heart.' Studying a language reflects the development of our world and is a sound investment for your future.**

The versatility it offers when applying to university and beyond is unquestionable, especially as successful international companies increasingly dominate the economic world. From the outset, you will discuss relevant current affairs and cover the core topics using only the target language, and translation where appropriate.

## COURSE OUTLINE

The core topics that will be covered over the two years:

1. Social issues and trends
2. Political and artistic culture
3. Grammar

This course is designed to focus on how Spanish-speaking society has been shaped socially and culturally and how it will also continually change in the future. You will also have an individual research project that you will choose, which is of interest to you and relates to a Hispanic country with the aim of developing and consolidating your research skills.



## ASSESSMENT STRUCTURE

A Level assessment is split into 3 parts. Each assessment is held at the end of Year 13. The focus of Paper 1 is on listening, reading and writing and counts for 40% of the overall grade. Paper 2 will look at writing and count towards 30% of the overall grade. Paper 3 covers the other 30% and will focus on speaking.

YEAR	TITLE	CONTENT	WEIGHTING
End of Year 13	Paper 1	Listening, Reading, Writing	40%
End of Year 13	Paper 2	Writing	30%
End of Year 13	Paper 3	Speaking	30%

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Competition for places will be high as modern foreign languages are a popular choice at A Level as well as university. As a result to ensure we strive for the highest success students will ideally have Grade Point 7-9 (Grade A\*/A) in Spanish GCSE. The minimum GCSE grade required is Grade point 6 (Grade B) as the A Level specification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained at GCSE level. Studying Spanish alongside a second modern foreign language would be advantageous. Studying Spanish would also complement A levels which are essay based and/or those which have a heavy reading load such as geography, history, English language and literature.



The limits of my language means the limits of my world.  
– Ludwig Wittgenstein



## PROGRESSION ROUTES

This qualification offers a suitable progression route to further develop a language in an undergraduate university degree. In the current economic climate, many jobs require a second or even third language in order to meet the requirements for a position. Over one third of businesses choose a candidate for their language skills.

Speaking languages other than your native tongue opens up a world of career opportunities such as: translator/interpreter, foreign service officer, international lawyer, overseas journalist, pilot, fashion designer, immigration/customs official, export/import business manager, sports coach and many other opportunities.

## RECOMMENDED EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

In order to secure a place on a Spanish based university course, or in the world of work, it is highly recommended that you participate in extra-curricular subject related activities and clubs. In addition to numerous clubs and societies taking place every week in Spanish, we also offer a cultural trip to Spain during your two-year study program. This will allow you to immerse yourself in Spanish culture and transfer the language you have learnt in the classroom to an authentic Spanish environment. You will have the opportunity to attend Spanish speaking theatre and will also travel to Manchester University's library, where we will look at Spanish literature and find work that dates back to key authors such as Cervantes.

## RECOMMENDED READING LIST

Crónica de una muerte anunciada by Gabriel García Márquez  
Como agua para chocolate by Esquivel  
La casa de Bernarda Alba by Lorca  
La Sombra del viento by Zafón  
La casa de los espíritus by Isabel Allende  
Rimas y leyendas by Bécquer  
El lápiz carpintero by Manuel Rivas

## TOP 5 UNIVERSITIES CURRENTLY FOR THIS SUBJECT

1. Cambridge
2. Oxford
3. Leicester
4. Durham
5. Sussex

## COURSE/QUALIFICATION DETAILS

Qualification: A Level Spanish

Board: AQA

Code: 7692

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