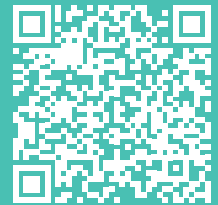


A Level Spanish AQA

Find out more



LINEAR

Why study Spanish?

Languages are an essential part of our international, intercultural world in which we live. Studying Languages equips students with a skill for life which will broaden horizons, increase employability and enable them to have the confidence to venture out into the world and discover new places and cultures. Language learning also develops critical thinking, research and communication skills, helping students prepare for higher education and gives them access to a wide range of exciting future careers.

Spanish is an ever-increasing popular language and is the third most widely spoken language in the world, opening up doors to not only Spain but also the whole of South America! A Level Spanish will foster an appreciation for the language and an awareness of many cultural aspects of the Spanish-speaking world including, literature, film, history and politics.

About the course

Spanish A level develops a student's knowledge and use of the language, building confidence and fluency throughout the course. Students will broaden their vocabulary and their grammatical knowledge to be able to use the language independently whilst developing their understanding of topics relating to Hispanic Society, Politics and Culture. All 4 skills, Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening will be practiced in a variety of different contexts and situations. We offer a two-year linear A Level with the option to complete the AS qualification at the end of the first year.

Year 12

In Year 12 students' study two main themes covering aspects of Hispanic Society and Artistic Culture in the Hispanic World. In the first theme students learn about the changing nature of Family Life, gaining an understanding of trends in marriage and how modern and traditional values differ. They will also learn about Equality of the Sexes and Gay Rights in Spanish speaking countries and the use of New Technologies and the influence they have on society today. The second theme teaches about Popular culture and the impact that artists from the world of Music, TV and Fashion have on our society. Students will also learn about Spanish Regional Identity through studying Spanish customs and traditions such as fiestas, food, art, architecture and languages. They will acquire knowledge of Film studies when they study a film by a Spanish director, enhancing their ability to evaluate and analyse.

Year 13

In Year 13, we focus on the current topics of Multiculturalism and Political Life in the Hispanic World. Students develop an understanding of Immigration and Racism and the way in which cultures coexist and integrate in today's society. In the second topic students learn about the importance of politics in the lives of young people and they delve into the interesting world of the Spanish Monarchy and Dictatorships and the power of popular movements in creating a change to the world we live in. Students also get to complete an individual research project. They may choose any topic

of their choice, linked to the Spanish-speaking world to research and they prepare a presentation on their chosen topic for the speaking exam. A book by a Spanish author is taught during this year too, giving further insight into the Culture of Spain.

Assessment

Assessment is through three separate papers. Paper 1 worth 50% of the grade is an exam in Reading, Listening, Writing and Translation into English. Paper 2 is a 2-hour writing paper worth 20% of the grade and includes a translation into Spanish (100 words) and 2 essay questions, 1 on the book and the other on the film studied. Paper 3 is the Speaking exam which lasts 16 minutes, worth 30% of the grade. This involves students discussing a sub-theme from the year for 5 minutes and then doing a 2-minute presentation and discussion for 10 minutes on an individual project chosen by the student.

Entry criteria

Students are required to achieve a level 6 at GCSE to be able to study Languages at A level.

Outside the classroom

Students have regular contact with a Foreign Language Assistant to develop their conversational skills and fluency.



"For me, A Level Spanish was challenging but very rewarding at the same time. At the moment I am in my second year at Marjons doing my Primary Teaching degree. I found that by having an A Level in Spanish, it allowed me to go on to do MFL as my specialist subject and since then the opportunities have been endless."

Hannah Jenkin