

SPANISH IN THE SIXTH FORM

WHY STUDY SPANISH AT A LEVEL?

Spanish has become increasingly popular as a modern language. Indeed, it is the third most widely-spoken language in the world (after Chinese and English). It has global reach and is spoken as a native language by 420 million people. In the USA it is spoken at home by more than 37 million people. Its economic value is measured in terms of the growing economies of Latin America. Spanish is easy to learn in the early stages as it is very phonetic (words are pronounced as they are written), the vocabulary includes a great many words of recognizable Latin origin and Spanish grammar is logical and coherent, which makes rules easy to apply. From an educational point of view, Spanish is an asset to have as it may be combined with a variety of university courses, such as Business, Economics, International Relations, and Politics. It is also a beautiful and musical language.

THE A LEVEL COURSE



We follow the Edexcel syllabus, teaching in four double lessons, totalling eight lessons per week. The study of literature and film forms part of the A Level course. Sixth Form linguists also attend a conversation lesson per week with our Spanish Assistant, attending individually or in pairs. Language skills are developed through the study and discussion in Spanish of topics relating to contemporary issues in the spanish-speaking world, and tested by a variety of multi-skill methods. Students are trained to write accurately, to think critically and to support their opinions with reasoned argument. Independently they are encouraged to listen to Spanish as much as possible, via the radio and podcasts, and to read newspapers and books. Students are prepared for their examinations in listening, reading, translation, essay writing and speaking. Each year our students attend a London production of the play they are studying, performed in Spanish.

TIME ABROAD

Travel to Spanish-speaking countries is encouraged and students often embark on 'total immersion' Spanish study courses. This has been of great benefit to their languages skills, confidence and cultural awareness.

Our Sixth Form linguists frequently choose to study languages at university, combining them with other advanced or beginner languages, English, Business and other subjects.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Languages have never been so relevant in our globalised world. Industry is increasingly calling out for language students to fill top positions in trading organisations, banks and multinational companies. The government needs strong communicators and eloquent diplomats to represent the country abroad, and our current political uncertainty will only underline the need for jobs that enable manufacturers and service providers to be able to communicate with new markets and suppliers to grow business and increase sales.

Language students show that they are committed to the core skills that we need in the modern world. They can show that you are a flexible, resilient, world-aware, engaged and eloquent person for whom challenges are seen as opportunities.



A LEVEL RESULTS 2019

GRADE	A	B	C	D
Spanish	1		4	2