

# Spanish

## A level

### What will I study and learn?

A level Spanish is a varied and interesting course; over the two years of the course you will study:

- Aspects of Hispanic society: modern and traditional values; cyberspace; and equal rights
- Multiculturalism in Hispanic society: immigration; racism; and integration
- Artistic culture in the Hispanic world: modern day idols; Spanish regional identity; and cultural heritage
- Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world: today's youth, tomorrow's citizens; monarchies and dictatorships; and popular movements.

You will also undertake an individual research project on a subject that is of interest to you, relating to a country or countries where Spanish is spoken. You will study a set text and film over the two years. Translation skills in and out of Spanish will also be developed.

### How will I be assessed?

You will sit three papers at the end of the second year:

<b>Paper 1</b> Listening, Reading and Writing (50%)
<b>Paper 2</b> Writing (20%)
<b>Paper 3</b> Speaking (30%)

### What skills should I have and what will be developed?

You should have a sound understanding of the linguistic structures covered at IGCSE/GCSE level and an interest in Hispanic culture.

During the course we will expose you to as much Spanish as possible so you will be encouraged to play an active role in class discussions and present your points of view on a range of topics related to the Hispanic world. By focusing on more precise grammar work, you will acquire sound translation skills and through the study of a set text and film, you will be able to write analytical essays in Spanish. In addition to the timetabled classes with your two teachers, you will benefit from conversation classes with our Spanish Language Assistant.

## A level/IB

The Department organises a range of activities to complement your language studies, such as theatre and cinema trips to view Spanish plays and films, as well as tapas cooking competitions. We have also organised study trips to Spain where students have followed programme of language classes and cultural activities.

Demand for Spanish speakers has risen considerably. There are nearly 500 million native speakers of Spanish; it is one of the fastest-growing and most exciting languages in the world today. Learning Spanish opens up a wealth of opportunities for further study, work, travel and adventure!

### Entry requirements

You should gain a minimum of a grade 7 at GCSE/IGCSE to study the language at A level or the IB Higher level course; a grade 6 is the minimum grade for the IB standard level course.



## IB

### What will I study and learn?

All students at standard and higher level will study the following core topics:

- identities
- experiences
- human ingenuity
- social organisation
- sharing the planet.

Higher level students will also study two works from Hispanic literature.

### How will I be assessed?

There are four elements of assessment:

External Assessment		Internal Assessment	External Assessment		Internal Assessment
SL Paper 1 25%	SL Paper 2 50%	SL Oral Assessment (25%)	HL Paper 1 25%	HL Paper 2 50%	HL Oral Assessment (25%)
Productive skills – writing  One writing task of 250–400 words from a choice of three, each from a different theme, choosing a text type from among those listed in the examination instructions.	Receptive skills – separate sections for listening and reading  Comprehension exercises on three audio passages and three written texts, drawn from all five themes.	A conversation with the teacher, based on a photo linked to the themes and Hispanic culture, followed by a discussion based on one or more of the themes from the syllabus.	Productive skills – writing  One writing task of 450–600 words from a choice of three, each from a different theme, choosing a text type from among those listed in the examination instructions.	Receptive skills – separate sections for listening and reading  Comprehension exercises on three audio passages and three written texts, drawn from all five themes.	A conversation with the teacher, based on an extract from one of the literary works studied in class, followed by a discussion based on one or more of the themes from the syllabus .

### Want to know more?

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Exam Board:  
[www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)  
[www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)

“At GCSE you learn key phrases, but in the Sixth Form you understand the structure of the phrases, elaborating on our preexisting knowledge of the language. You cover topics from immigration to literature or film. The contact time that I get with the Spanish Assistants is invaluable, and has really helped me to improve my speaking.

Sophie McConnell, OB 2019  
Courses: Spanish, Mathematics and Geography