

# A Level Spanish

## **Grade entry requirements:**

GCSE 5 or higher at MFL

## **Subject Outline and Progression:**

The A-level Spanish course is a comprehensive program designed to develop students' proficiency in the Spanish language and provide them with a deeper understanding of the culture, society, and issues of the Spanish-speaking world. The course covers a wide range of skills and topics, including contemporary challenges from a Spanish-speaking perspective, such as immigration, environment, and social inequalities. It delves into the culture, history, and society of Spanish-speaking countries, helping students gain a broad perspective on the Spanish-speaking world. Emphasis is placed on students' ability to engage in debates, discussions, and extended essays in Spanish.

Overall, the AQA A-level Spanish course offers a well-rounded and in-depth study of the Spanish language, culture, and society, preparing students for higher education or future career opportunities in Spanish-speaking regions or fields related to Spanish language and culture.

## **Exam Board: AQA**

### **Exam details:**

#### **Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing**

Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes; total raw mark: 100; scaling factor x2

#### **Paper 2: Writing**

Duration: 2 hours; total raw mark: 80; scaling factor x1

Students will answer an essay question in Spanish for each of the two works they have studied (this can be a book and a film, or two books). Students will have a choice of question on each book/film.

#### **Paper 3: Speaking**

Duration: 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes supervised preparation time); total raw mark: 60; scaling factor x2

The test will be in two parts. Part 1 will be the discussion of one sub-theme from those in this specification, lasting 5–6 minutes, and Part 2 will be the presentation and discussion of the student's individual research project.

## **Course structure:**

### **Social issues and trends**

#### **Aspects of Hispanic society**

- Modern and traditional values (Los valores tradicionales y modernos)
- Cyberspace (El ciberespacio)
- Equal rights (La igualdad de los sexos)

#### **Multiculturalism in Hispanic society**

- Immigration (La inmigración)
- Racism (El racismo)
- Integration (La convivencia)

❑ **Political and artistic culture**

**Artistic culture in the Hispanic world**

Students may study the remaining sub-themes in relation to any Spanish-speaking country or countries.

- Modern day idols (La influencia de los ídolos)
- Spanish regional identity (La identidad regional en España)
- Cultural heritage (El patrimonio cultural)

**Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world**

Students may study the remaining sub-themes in relation to any Spanish-speaking country or countries.

- Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens (Jóvenes de hoy, ciudadanos del mañana)
- Monarchies and dictatorships (Monarquías y dictaduras)
- Popular movements (Movimientos populares)

**Skills that will be developed:**

The course aims to enhance students' speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills in Spanish. It covers complex grammatical structures, vocabulary, and idiomatic expressions. Furthermore, students will enhance their critical thinking skills through their individual research project, allowing them to investigate a topic of their choice related to Spanish-speaking countries. Additionally, they will study prominent literary works and films from Spanish-speaking regions, analysing themes, literary techniques, and historical context.

**Works well with:**

A-level Spanish can complement a range of other options: it could pair well with subjects like Economics, Geography, History, Philosophy, and Politics. But it would also nicely balance out options such as Physics, Maths and Computer Science.

**Careers:**

Not only A-level Spanish prepares students for the research element of a university degree with the individual research project, but it develops many skills that employers struggle to find in applicants nowadays. It can lead to many unexpected careers (beyond the ones listed below) because your increased communication skills, your ability to debate current issues, your understanding of other cultures from a historical, cultural and societal perspective, your curiosity and respect for other viewpoints and your enhanced problem solving skills will give you a competitive edge just as much as the ability to speak, read and write in Spanish. Languages will widen your horizons, which really appeals to employers.

Possible career paths available with A-level Spanish include:

- Travel and Tourism
- Journalism
- Diplomatic service officer
- Marketing
- International business
- Spanish Translator
- Interpreter
- Bilingual flight attendant
- Government jobs
- Educational content creation
- Medical field

- Bilingual customer support
- Legal and law enforcement
- International development worker
- Bilingual social worker
- Bilingual speech and language pathology
- Spanish teacher

**Any expenses:**

Textbooks and potential trips.