



SPANISH

Spanish at A-level takes the study of Spanish to a depth where fluent discussion, both orally and on paper, becomes possible. The course also provides insights into the culture of Spanish-speaking countries in Europe and in Central and Latin America. Oral work is important and all lessons are mainly in Spanish.

To help develop your oral work and understanding of issues, the school arranges visits to Spain firstly a cultural weekend in Madrid or Barcelona. You will be expected to read contemporary Spanish language magazines and newspapers, listen to recordings and watch video materials as a further means of developing all aspects of your language work.

The course

Year 12: A-level

In Year 12, the course has been designed to take into account the likely linguistic knowledge of students who have only recently completed a Spanish GCSE. It is envisaged that the topics studied will stimulate their interest and engage and motivate them. The end of Year 12 examination will take the form of a formal assessment to consider a student's ability for further study in Year 13. The course will cover:

Theme 1: Aspects of Spanish-speaking society: current trends – marriage and family, the cyber-society and technology, gender equality

Theme 2: Artistic culture in the Spanish-speaking world – influence of idols, regional identity in Spain, musical heritage

Study of a novel: The study of the Colombian author Gabriel García Márquez and his work *Crónica de una muerte anunciada*.

Year 13: A-level

The second year of the A-level course is designed to build on the knowledge acquired and consolidated in Year 12, with more challenging grammar and the introduction of literature alongside an independent research project. The course will cover:

Theme 3: Multiculturalism in Spanish-speaking society – Immigration, racism and integration

Theme 4: Aspects of political life in the Spanish-speaking world – Today's youth, monarchies and dictatorships, social movements

Independent research task (cultural topic: research author, art movement, historical period, current trend or political issue) – in Year 13 students will be researching a theme independently with a view to presenting the topic for two minutes with a follow up discussion for a further nine to 10 minutes.

Cultural topic: Study of a film – *Volver* a contemporary study of Spanish society with all its contradictions and attractions, beautifully directed by Spain's most celebrated director, Almodóvar. In addition to further study of the novel *Crónica de una muerte anunciada*.

A-level Spanish and beyond

Modern languages have a unique place in higher education in that almost any degree course can be taken with a modern foreign language. The study of a language is particularly common in Business Administration, Engineering and Technology and Law courses. In the case of Spanish, many of these courses include a year spent in a university or firm in a Spanish speaking country.

Experience in Central and Latin America provides valuable insights into these emerging markets and is experience that is valued by multinational firms developing their resources in these countries.

Spanish and Hispanic Studies are university subjects available as a single subject degree or they can be combined with other subjects such as another language, English, History or Philosophy or with many other Arts and Humanities subjects or Engineering, Science and Financial degrees.

The wide range of university courses that include the study of Spanish means that taking this subject can be taken with many A-level subject combinations.