

Spanish

Spanish is spoken in 23 countries and is also one of the official languages of the EU. There are more than 300 million native speakers of Spanish throughout the world and as a language it is therefore vastly more important than many people realise. It is the fourth most spoken language worldwide and is often regarded as the second most important one in international communication.

Each of the 23 Spanish speaking countries has valuable contributions to make in the fields of commerce, industry and culture. Spain is currently one of Britain's most important trading partners and to ensure success in the Spanish-speaking market, firms currently need to promote their products in Spanish. The ability to use modern languages has therefore become a highly valued skill in a wide range of careers and indeed an essential qualification for some.

Moreover, speaking Spanish offers the key to the rich artistic and cultural heritage of Spain and Latin America which includes works by authors such as the Colombian García Márquez, the Chilean writer Isabel Allende and the classical Spanish novelist Miguel de Cervantes, known internationally for his novel 'Don Quixote'. Within the world of cinematography, we also find the Spanish filmmakers Luis Buñuel and Pedro Almodóvar.

Content of Course

AQA A level Spanish

Year 12

This is taught through listening, speaking, reading and writing skills and covers the following contemporary topics:

- Aspects of Hispanic society: modern and traditional values, cyberspace and equal rights
- Artistic culture in the Hispanic world: modern day idols, Spanish regional identity and cultural heritage
- Grammar and translation
- Works: Literary text or film

Year 13

This is again delivered through listening, speaking, reading and writing skills and embraces the following current social issues:

- Multiculturalism in Hispanic society: immigration, racism and integration
- Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world: Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens, monarchies and dictatorships, popular movements
- Grammar and translation
- Works: Literary text and film
- Individual Research Project

Specific Requirements & Skills Required

- A strong drive to communicate clearly and effectively
- The confidence to engage in oral work
- A fascination for Spanish and Latin America culture
- An inquisitive and curious mind
- A high standard of literacy and GCSE Spanish (7)
- The willingness to take risks and make mistakes as part of the learning process
- An ability to manage time effectively and meet deadlines
- Confidence using and manipulating a range of different grammatical structures and tenses
- An ability to use reference materials effectively

Progression

Studying Spanish demonstrates intellectual rigour, analytical thinking, and problem-solving abilities, all of which can enhance your university applications and career prospects. Most universities offer Spanish, and the subject can be studied either on its own or together with a range of other disciplines.