

## MODERN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

Head of Department: Mrs K Waters

Why choose the subject? Globalisation, the ease of international travel and technology are bringing more of the world within our reach and the ability to communicate as well as understand and appreciate different cultures is an invaluable skill which is highly valued by employers. The AS and A level Spanish course allows you to develop an advanced level knowledge and understanding of the Spanish language, the culture of Spain and Latin American countries as well as many transferable study skills.

Languages combine well with virtually any subject for further study. The range of combined degrees and further education courses involving a language is limitless – from Accountancy with Russian to Theatre Studies with Italian.

A level Spanish is a 2 year course  
AS Spanish is a 1 year course

Who is eligible? GCSE grade B or above in Spanish is a minimum requirement.

## A LEVEL QUALIFICATION

Year 2017/2019 Advanced Level Award  
Examination Board: EdExcel

### **Theme 1: La evolución de la sociedad española**

Theme 1 is set in the context of **Spain only**.

- El cambio en la estructura familiar
- El mundo laboral
- El impacto turístico en España

### **Theme 2: La cultura política y artística en el mundo de habla española**

Theme 2 is set in the context of **Spanish-speaking countries and communities**.

- La música
- Los medios de comunicación
- Los festivales y las tradiciones

### **Theme 3: La inmigración y la sociedad multicultural española**

Theme 3 is set in the context of **Spain only**.

- La inmigración históricamente y contemporáneamente
- La integración y el multiculturalismo

### **Theme 4: La dictadura franquista y la transición a la democracia**

Theme 4 is set in the context of **Spain only**.

- La dictadura franquista
- El paso de la dictadura a la democracia

**Paper 1. Listening, reading and translation**

Written examination: 2 hours 40% of qualification (80 marks)

**Section A: Listening (30 marks)**

This section will be made up of spoken passages covering different registers and types, including authentic communication involving one or male and female speakers. Sources will include material from online media.

**Section B: Reading (30 marks)**

The reading section will be made up of texts containing both factual and abstract content and will be authentic or adapted from authentic sources. The texts will include contemporary, historical, literary, fiction and non-fiction, written for different purposes and audiences.

**Section C: translation into English (20 marks)**

The content for the translation will be taken from one of the four themes.

**Paper 2. Written response to works and translation**

Written examination: 2 hours and 40 minutes 30% of qualification (120 marks)

**Section A: Translation into Spanish (20 marks)**

Students are given an unseen text in English to translate into Spanish

**Section B: Written response to works (literary texts) (50 marks)**

**Section C: Written response to works (films) (50 marks)**

Candidates must write an extended response in Spanish on either 1 literary text and a film or 2 literary texts from the prescribed literary texts and films.

There will be a choice of two questions for each literary text and film. Students will give a critical and analytical response by selecting relevant material from the works.

Candidates will be expected to present and justify points of view, develop arguments, draw conclusions based on understanding and evaluate issues, themes and cultural and social contexts related to the works studied. Candidates can write 300-350 words although all the essay will be marked regardless of length.

**Paper 3: Speaking**

Internally conducted and externally assessed 30% of the qualification (72 marks)

Total assessment time: between 27 and 30 minutes, which includes 15 minutes of formal preparation time.

**Task 1** – discussion on a theme based on a stimulus containing 2 different statements.

**Task 2 part 1** – independent research presentation, a summary of at least 2 of the written sources they have used for their research.

**Task 2 part 2** – discussion on their independent research topic.

## AS LEVEL QUALIFICATION

### **Theme 1: La evolución de la sociedad española**

Theme 1 is set in the context of **Spain only**.

#### **El cambio en la estructura familiar**

- La evolución de las actitudes hacia el matrimonio, las relaciones y las familias.

#### **El mundo laboral**

- La vida laboral en España y las actitudes hacia el trabajo; las oportunidades de trabajo para los jóvenes; la igualdad de género.

#### **El impacto turístico en España**

- El impacto económico; las oportunidades que ofrece el turismo; el impacto socio-ambiental.

### **Theme 2: La cultura política y artística en el mundo de habla española**

Theme 2 is set in the context of **Spanish-speaking countries and communities**.

#### **La música**

- Los cambios y las tendencias; el impacto de la música en la cultura contemporánea.

#### **Los medios de comunicación**

- La televisión y las telenovelas: los medios de comunicación escritos y en internet; el impacto en la sociedad y la política.

#### **Los festivales y las tradiciones**

- Los festivales, las fiestas, las costumbres y las tradiciones.

### **Paper 1. Listening, reading and translation** 1 hour and 50 minutes, 40% of the qualification

This paper draws on vocabulary and structures across all themes and sub-themes

#### **Section A: Listening (24 marks)**

A listening assessment based on a recording, featuring male and female Spanish speakers. Students will respond to comprehension questions based on a variety of contexts and sources.

#### **Section B: Reading (28 marks)**

A reading assessment based on a variety of text types and genres where students will have to respond to comprehension questions

#### **Section C: Translation into English (12 marks)**

An unseen passage to be translated from Spanish to English.

### **Paper 2: Written response to work, grammar and translation**

Written examination: 1 hour and 40 minutes 30% of the qualification 48marks

Translation of an unseen passage and a grammar exercise based on one of the two themes.

The study of one discrete Spanish work: either one literary text or one film. The work must be taken from the list provided.

The literary texts listed include a range of classic and contemporary novels and one play. All of the films are feature length.

Students are not permitted access to a dictionary or any documentation relating to the works during the examination.

Students complete Section A and one question from either Section B or C.

**Section A: Translation and grammar** (16 marks -12 marks for translation and 4 marks for grammar)

**Section B: Written response to works** (literary texts)(32marks)

Students select one question from a choice of two for their chosen literary text.

If a student answers a question in this section then they do not complete section C.

**Section C: Written response to works** (films) (32 marks)

Students select one question from a choice of two for their chosen film.

If a student answers a question in this section they do not answer a question in section B.

**Paper 3: Speaking** Internally conducted and externally assessed  
Total assessment time: between 27 and 30 minutes, which includes 5 minutes formal preparation time 30% of the qualification 48 marks.

**Task 1**

Students read and respond to two short texts based on the theme *La evolución de la sociedad española* and then hold a discussion

Task 2 is based on a discussion from the theme  
*La cultura política y artística en el mundo de habla española*

Students will be assessed on their ability to communicate and interact effectively, summarise and understand written sources in speech, manipulate language accurately and show knowledge and understanding about the culture and society where the language is spoken.

## STUDENT VIEW

## Spanish



Spanish A level is a lot different from GCSE as it allows you to learn more about the countries and cultures whilst improving your language skills. Spanish is spoken in many countries so learning the language will give you many more opportunities when it comes to choosing a career.

Laura Porras