



Spanish (A Level)

What will the course involve?

The Pearson Edexcel A level in Spanish provides an engaging and exciting opportunity for students to build on their previous study of Spanish. The Pearson Edexcel A Level in Spanish has been developed to inspire all students who have an appreciation of the language, literature, film and culture of the Spanish-speaking world. Through social, intellectual, historical and political cultural themes, students will be able to develop their linguistic knowledge and cultural understanding of the countries/communities where the language is spoken. An opportunity to study literature and film will allow students to undertake a deeper analysis of language structures and increase their cultural awareness as part of an integrated approach to language learning. A strong focus is placed on building students' confidence and fluency in spoken Spanish using relevant and topical themes. The requirement to research an area of personal interest related to the country/communities where Spanish is spoken will enhance students' cultural appreciation and enable them to gain a greater awareness of intercultural differences.

How will I be assessed?

This qualification has three components.

- Paper 1 is a listening, reading and translation written examination.
- Paper 2 is a written examination in response to works and translation.
- Paper 3 is a spoken examination.

Themes and sub-themes

Theme 1: La evolución de la sociedad española

Theme 2: La cultura política y artística en el mundo hispanohablante

Theme 3: La inmigración y la sociedad multicultural española

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

The list of prescribed literary works and films can be reviewed with staff.

What skills will I develop?

This A level in Spanish will enable learners to:

- enhance their linguistic skills and promote and develop their capacity for critical thinking on the basis of their knowledge and understanding of the language, culture and society of the countries/communities where the language is spoken
- develop control of the language system to convey meaning, using spoken and written skills, including an extended range of vocabulary, for both practical and intellectual purposes as increasingly confident, accurate and independent users of the language
- develop their ability to interact effectively with users of the language in speech and in writing, including through online media

- develop language learning skills and strategies, including communication strategies to sustain communication and build fluency and confidence
- engage critically with intellectually stimulating texts, films and other materials in the original language, developing an appreciation of sophisticated and creative uses of the language and understanding them within their cultural and social context
- develop knowledge about matters central to the society and culture, past and present, of the countries/communities where the language is spoken
- mediate between cultures and between speakers of the language and speakers of English
- foster their ability to learn other languages
- equip themselves with transferable skills such as autonomy, resourcefulness, creativity, critical thinking, and linguistic, cultural and cognitive flexibility that will enable them to proceed to further study or to employment
- develop their capacity for critical and analytical thinking through the language of study
- develop as independent researchers through the language of study.

Where can the study of Spanish lead?

There are plenty of compelling reasons to learn Spanish, but the main one is employability.

In virtually any career field, Spanish can come in handy and help you advance. If you travel to any Spanish-speaking country for work, you will certainly impress with your advanced language skills. Conversational fluency is also key and this will develop as you follow the course and become more confident when speaking Spanish. With your incredible Spanish language skills at the ready, you will be one-step closer to some great jobs, including in: advertising and marketing, writing and journalism, law, consultancy, business, teaching, performing arts, academia, government, linguistics, media and design. The ability to communicate in other languages is a valued skill and opens many doors to new opportunities both here in the UK and around the world.

Where can I get more information?

For further information about studying Spanish at Archbishop Blanch Sixth Form contact: Mr. S J Davenport, Head of Modern Foreign Languages on admin@blanch.org.uk