

Spanish

Subject Leader: Miss G. Bruce

Exam Board: Edexcel

A Level

At A level, students greatly develop their awareness of the culture, society and recent history of Spain and Spanish-speaking countries. Throughout the two years, all students are actively encouraged to develop their listening and reading skills through the use of the media, including interactive web resources. Literature and film studies as well as independent research are also important features of the course.

Course Content

The A-Level course is made up of 4 main Themes, which are then broken into sub-themes. Students in their first year cover the first two themes: 'the evolution of Spanish society' and 'political and artistic culture in the Spanish-speaking world' which includes the sub-themes of: family and relationships, the world of work, tourism, media and music and festivals and traditions.

In the second year, students build on their skills through studying the remaining two themes: 'immigration and the multicultural society' and 'Franco's dictatorship and the transition to democracy'.

Students will also study two literary texts (or one literary text and a film) over the course of the two years as well as the skills of translation and prose. They will also prepare an independent research project for discussion in the oral examination.

Method of Assessment

- Paper 1 is a 2 hour listening, reading and translation (into English) paper worth 40% of the overall mark for the A level examination.
- Paper 2 is a 2 hour paper testing candidates' written response to works (literature and/or film) and translation into Spanish and is worth 30% of the overall mark.
- Paper 3 is a speaking examination lasting approximately 20 minutes and worth 30% of the overall mark; it comprises a conversation on one of the course Themes and also a discussion of the student's independent research project.

Students need to buy a large bilingual (Spanish/English) dictionary, a vocabulary book and grammar book as well as the course text book.