

# Spanish

**Why Study Spanish?:** The course aims to encourage candidates to develop a greater understanding and appreciation of Spanish culture and society as well as developing the ability to understand, speak and write Spanish. The two-year course comprises three components which cover the skills of speaking, reading, listening, translation and writing; these skills are built upon those acquired and practised at GCSE. Topics include; being a young person in Spanish-speaking society; understanding the Spanish-speaking world and Spain from 1936 onwards; Migration and integration.

The Modern Languages department has a digital Sanako-Tandberg Language Laboratory where students are able to practise listening and speaking individually and with others.

## Content and Assessment of the Course:

A Level Spanish			
<b>Component 1</b>	<b>Speaking (oral)</b>	<b>21-23 minutes oral</b>	<b>30%</b>
<p>The examination consists of two parts.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 A presentation, followed by a discussion, on a project independently researched. Candidates take this opportunity to study an area or theme not otherwise covered by the specification and in doing so have the chance to research a topic of genuine personal interest relating to the Francophone countries.</li> <li>2 Theme-based discussion. This involves a conversation on a topical theme chosen by the examiner from those studied for the examination. Candidates receive a conversation card to study and then discuss the topic with the examiner.</li> </ol>			
<b>Component 2</b>	<b>Listening, Reading, and Translation into Spanish</b>	<b>2½ hour examination</b>	<b>50%</b>
<p>This component comprises three sections</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Listening to texts in Spanish and answering questions of different types</li> <li>2 Reading texts in Spanish and answering questions of different types</li> </ol> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Both these components test a candidate's comprehension.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 Translation both into and out of Spanish, each passage being a minimum of 100 words.</li> </ol>			
<b>Component 3</b>	<b>Critical and analytical response in writing</b>	<b>2 hour examination</b>	<b>20%</b>
<p>This component comprises two essays of c300 words each on two literary texts or one literary text plus one film that the candidate has studied during the course.</p> <p>The literary work(s) and film are chosen from a list specified by the examination board. All pupils normally study the same works in class, however independent reading out of the classroom is essential.</p>			

**Additional Information:** It is important to be able to express views orally and in writing on a wide range of topical themes such as the environment, the role communications media, and employment, education, and so on, and to learn to defend a point of view in Spanish. Each student has one lesson a week in a group of two or three with the Foreign Language Assistant from Spain.

**Entrance Requirements:** GCSE grade 7 in Spanish

Essential are the genuine desire to speak Spanish and the drive to undertake further reading willingly.