

**Course  
Overview**

The aim of the A-level Spanish course is to help students develop confident, effective communication skills in Spanish as well as a thorough understanding of the culture of countries and communities where it is spoken.

**Specification:** <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/spanish/specifications/AQA-7692-SP-2016.PDF>

At A Level, you study the following **themes**

**Aspects of Hispanic society**

**Modern and traditional values (Los valores tradicionales y modernos)**

- Los cambios en la familia
- Actitudes hacia el matrimonio/el divorcio
- La influencia de la Iglesia Católica

**Cyberspace (El ciberespacio)**

- La influencia de internet
- Las redes sociales: beneficios y peligros
- Los móviles inteligentes en nuestra sociedad

**Equal rights (La igualdad de los sexos)**

- La mujer en el mercado laboral
- El machismo y el feminismo
- Los derechos de los gays y las personas transgénero

**Multiculturalism in Hispanic society** Students may study all sub-themes in relation to any Spanish-speaking country or countries.

**Immigration (La inmigración)**

- Los beneficios y los aspectos negativos
- La inmigración en el mundo hispánico
- Los indocumentados - problemas

**Racism (El racismo)**

- Las actitudes racistas y xenófobas
- Las medidas contra el racismo
- La legislación anti-racista

**Integration (La convivencia)**

- La convivencia de culturas
- La educación
- Las religiones

**Artistic culture in the Hispanic world** Students

**Modern day idols (La influencia de los ídolos)**

- Cantantes y músicos
- Estrellas de televisión y cine
- Modelos

**Spanish regional identity (La identidad regional en España)**

- Tradiciones y costumbres
- La gastronomía
- Las lenguas

**Cultural heritage (El patrimonio cultural)**

- Sitios turísticos y civilizaciones prehispanicas: Machu Picchu, la Alhambra, etc
- Arte y arquitectura
- El patrimonio musical y su diversidad

Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world Students must study Monarchies and dictatorships in relation to any relevant Spanish-speaking country or countries. Students may study the remaining sub-themes in relation to any Spanish-speaking country or countries.

**Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens (Jóvenes de hoy, ciudadanos del mañana)**

- Los jóvenes y su actitud hacia la política : activismo o apatía

- El paro entre los jóvenes
  - Su sociedad ideal
- Monarchies and dictatorships (Monarquías y dictaduras)**
- La dictadura de Franco
  - La evolución de la monarquía en España
  - Dictadores latinoamericanos
- Popular movements (Movimientos populares)**
- La efectividad de las manifestaciones y las huelgas
  - El poder de los sindicatos
  - Ejemplos de protestas sociales (eg El 15-M, las Madres de la Plaza de Mayo, ...)

### Assessment

#### Paper 1

Listening, reading and writing

Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes; total raw mark: 100

#### **Section 1: Listening and Responding in Spanish**

#### **Section 2: Reading and Responding in Spanish**

#### **Section 3: Translation**

1 text of around 100 words from Spanish to English

1 text of around 100 words from English to Spanish

#### Paper 2

Writing

Duration: 2 hours; total raw mark: 80

1 essay on the set film studied (around 350 words)

1 essay on the set novel studied (around 350 words)

#### Paper 3

Speaking

Duration: 23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time); raw mark: 60

Task 1: Response to stimulus text on 1 of the themes and follow-up discussion (7 minutes total)

Task 2: Independent Research Project – 2 minute presentation, 9 minute question and answer session.

***Students select their own area of study and complete independent research around this topic, identifying key areas to be questioned on and respond to.***

## Useful websites

<http://rtve.es> Search for '4 minutos' within the site and then listen and try to pick out the main stories

<http://www.laits.utexas.edu/spe/> Video listening practice with transcripts

<http://zachary-jones.com/spanish/> Superb blog with articles and exercises to accompany them, as well as songs and videos

[http://www.spanishnewsbites.com/spanish\\_newsbytes/advanced\\_level/](http://www.spanishnewsbites.com/spanish_newsbytes/advanced_level/) Excellent listening activities with blankfill exercise, transcript and translator tool

<http://feeds.feedburner.com/SlowSpainPodcast> Excellent listening activities (with transcript available)

[http://www.spanishrevision.co.uk/a\\_level/index.htm](http://www.spanishrevision.co.uk/a_level/index.htm) Great revision activities

<http://www.elmundo.es> Spanish newspaper online

[http://www.freeetv.com/modules.php?name=Video\\_Stream&page=watch&id=2211&d=2](http://www.freeetv.com/modules.php?name=Video_Stream&page=watch&id=2211&d=2) Euronews in Spanish

<http://www.colby.edu/personal/b/bknelson/SLC/> Grammar exercises

[Trinity grammar pages](http://www.trinitygrammar.com) Grammar exercises

	<p><a href="http://www.jimmyp.me.uk/page3.html">http://www.jimmyp.me.uk/page3.html</a> Excellent grammar notes</p> <p><a href="http://www.languagesresources.co.uk/">http://www.languagesresources.co.uk/</a> Great resources for different levels, including reading comprehension practice, and literature notes and worksheets</p> <p><a href="http://servicios.ideal.es/videos/#">http://servicios.ideal.es/videos/#</a> Brilliant videos on a huge range of topics. Try summarising what they say, for practice</p> <p><a href="http://www.20minutos.es/">http://www.20minutos.es/</a> Accessible reading and video clips</p> <p><a href="http://sacodeyl.inf.um.es/sacodeyl-search2/">http://sacodeyl.inf.um.es/sacodeyl-search2/</a> Select Spanish Corpus for series of videos of Spaniards</p>
<p><b>Essential text books and reading list</b></p>	<p>The EDEXCEL Spanish Grammar workbook and answer booklet. (Have this ready for September start)</p> <p>Palabra por Palabra (Have this ready to use for September start)</p> <p>AQA Textbook A Level Spanish</p>
<p><b>Summer task</b></p>	<p>Get <u>one very large ring binder</u> with <u>8 dividers</u>. Bring to school on the first lesson back labelled as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Aspects of Hispanic society</b></li> <li>• <b>Multiculturalism in Hispanic society Students may study all sub-themes in relation to any Spanish-speaking country or countries.</b></li> <li>• <b>Artistic culture in the Hispanic world Students</b></li> <li>• <b>Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens (Jóvenes de hoy, ciudadanos del mañana)</b></li> </ul> <p>☒ <b>Grammar</b></p> <p>☒ <b>Vocabulary</b></p> <p>☒ <b>Oral work &amp; oral exam preparation</b></p> <p>Get <u>one smaller ring binder</u> in which you will keep the work from the last 2 weeks' lessons and any work that you have to hand in that week. After 2 weeks, all work is filed in the large ring binder at home. This will be checked by your teacher every half term.</p> <p><u>Grammar Revision Task to complete – this is not optional.</u></p> <p>Go to <a href="http://www.languagesonline.org.uk/">http://www.languagesonline.org.uk/</a></p> <p>Select Spanish and then Grammar.</p> <p>As you can see there are several sections you can revise. Please revise all tense sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Present tense</li> <li>• Present continuous</li> <li>• Perfect tense</li> <li>• Future tense</li> <li>• Preterite,</li> <li>• Imperfect tense</li> <li>• Conditional tense</li> </ul> <p>For each section:</p> <p>☒ Read the introduction notes PROPERLY – No SKIPPING BITS.</p> <p>☒ Complete the exercises for that section.</p> <p>☒ Check your answers and make sure that you understand what you did wrong .</p> <p>☒ If it is a grammar point that you have particularly struggled with – print off the notes for reference and place in the 'grammar' section of your folder for easy reference.</p>

## Why take Spanish?

You will extend and develop your knowledge of the grammar and vocabulary of the foreign language through reading and listening to authentic foreign language materials, ranging from magazines and video clips to films, and you will study aspects of the contemporary society, cultural background and heritage of Spain which will enable you to develop your understanding of European and worldwide current affairs.

You will have the opportunity to take part in exchanges, become a Language Ambassador and get involved in the wider school community by supporting or teaching pupils in younger year groups, organising competitions and enjoying regular trips to the Broadway cinema to see films in Spanish. So why not get involved and broaden YOUR horizons!