



How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed in all four skill areas using the criteria specified by the examination board AQA. This will enable you to become familiar with the requirements for each element of the course. With mock examinations, the corresponding mark schemes published by AQA will be used. In line with College procedure, you will be given a grade for your effort and attainment at fixed intervals throughout the year. At the end of each course, there will be three formal external examinations.

What extra work can I do?

Modern foreign languages are skill based subjects and in order to improve your skills, you should ensure that you get as much extra practice as possible beyond what is covered in class. There are many ways in which you can do this. For example, if you wish to research a topic or do some follow-up work on an interesting article, you can refer to the many different internet sites available as well as search Spanish newspaper archives. For extra listening or reading practice, more grammar work or to practise past examination papers, you can log onto our 'Godalming Online' facility which will give you access to a whole host of materials.

***The real key to success is to ensure that you involve yourself right from the start. If you do, you will be amazed at your progress. Remember that 'practice makes perfect'.*

What will I gain from studying a Modern Foreign Language?

Being able to speak another foreign language is a wonderful skill to possess. It will enable you to travel to and indeed, live and work in many different countries, thereby gaining a real insight into their culture. Furthermore, you will have a sought-after skill which will undoubtedly open doors to many different career opportunities. Don't forget that Spanish is the second most spoken language in the world after Mandarin, with English third in the rankings!



Godalming College



SPANISH AS/A Level AQA

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How will we be taught?

We are keen to impart our knowledge of the language and culture of Spain & South America to you in a dynamic & interesting fashion. We are very aware that students come from a variety of backgrounds & indeed, educational experiences. We also appreciate that everyone learns in different ways. In order to cater for all these factors, tasks are differentiated at every opportunity. Extra support is given through lunchtime 'workshops' on an individual or group basis.

What does the course comprise of?

Topics studied in the AS or 1st year of the A level course:

- Aspects of Hispanic society: Family values, cyberspace and equal rights.
- Artistic culture: Modern idols, Spanish regional identity and Cultural heritage.
- A film or a book

A level 2nd year topics:

- Multiculturalism in Hispanic society: Immigration, racism and Integration
- Political life in the Hispanic world: Tomorrow's people, Monarchies and dictatorships and Popular movements.
- An independent research project on a subject of personal interest
- A film or a book (A combination of either a film and a book or alternatively two books must be studied over the two years.)

What is the course about?

Lessons are conducted extensively in Spanish & the vast majority of tasks are undertaken in the foreign language. On average, there are around 17 students per set. Conversation classes are done with the 'asistente' every week in small groups of 3 or 4 students. You will be allocated 4.5 hours per week for Spanish on your timetable, of which approximately 3.75 hours will be dedicated to the topic areas & 0.75 hours to the grammar. We study, revise & regularly test the different aspects of Spanish grammar as this is essential in order to be able to manipulate the language in an accurate & effective manner.

What sort of work will I be doing?

Initially, the tasks will build on the GCSE skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing. Within a short time, you will grow in confidence & competence and feel able to tackle longer, more complex tasks involving several skills. In preparation for the speaking exam, you will also learn how to present arguments in Spanish.

What opportunities will I get to visit a Spanish speaking country?

The Spanish Department organises a week's work experience to Spain staying with a host family every year, in which you are welcome to participate. Such ventures give you a unique opportunity to practise the language you have learnt in a Spanish family environment as well as first-hand experience of working in Spain.

What is the department like?

We are housed in the brand new, custom built 400s block with specialist classrooms which are equipped with a class set of PCs, access to tablets & a data projector which is connected to the College network. Such resources not only allow for improved teaching & learning during timetabled lessons but also give each individual student the opportunity to develop their skills at their own pace & in their own time.

There are three teachers of Spanish, all of whom are native speakers of Spanish, which is extremely advantageous equally from a linguistic and cultural perspective.

What are the entry requirements?

You will be required to have attained a minimum of a grade 6 or higher at Spanish GCSE.

Native, bilingual and highly fluent speakers may be admitted to the course. This is subject to discussions with both the Head of Department and Head of Faculty.



Quiz - Can you name the two places of interest in the pictures?

WHAT ARE THE PROGRESSION ROUTES FOR THIS QUALIFICATION?

AS and A level Spanish can be studied in combination with virtually every other subject. Beyond A level, Spanish can be studied in its own right at Degree level, where you will also have the opportunity to embark upon languages spoken with the Iberian peninsula such as Catalán, Basque, Galician and Portuguese. Added to this are the numerous options offered within Latin American Studies and when coupled with other subjects such as Business, Marketing, Law, Leisure & Tourism amongst many others, will make you a very attractive proposition to prospective employers.

In terms of careers, there is a wide range of opportunities for Modern Foreign Language graduates such as banking, law, translating, European Parliament, international business, teaching, journalism, insurance, bilingual secretarial work, fashion, travel industry, etc.