



SPANISH

Gordon's Sixth Form

A LEVEL

Why study Spanish?

Studying Spanish, which is truly a worldwide language, will place you ahead of the game when it comes to your future job aspirations. Spanish is a key leader in the marketplace in all the major industries, Business, Manufacturing, Tourism to name just a few. Speaking Spanish will open the doors to the future both at home and abroad!

Did you know?

- 94% of the world does not speak English as their first language and 75% of the world does not speak English at all.
- Over 400 million people speak Spanish!
- Spanish falls only second behind Chinese as the most spoken language in the world, even surpassing English which comes in third place.
- There are 21 countries which have Spanish as the official language.
- The UK has ever expanding trade markets with Latin America, which are set to increase post Brexit

What transferable skills can you gain from learning Spanish?

- Good communication and listening skills
- The ability to think 'outside the box'
- Marketable employment skills
- Improved confidence and maturity
- Analytical and presentation skills
- Opportunities to work and travel abroad
- Ability to enhance degrees with the ability to study as much or little as you want at University

The lower sixth (Year 12)

The course is linear, and you will sit your exams at the end of Year 13. Full details can be found on the AQA website (www.aqa.org.uk).

This course is designed to offer you an accessible, interesting and challenging Year 12 and 13. Topics and skills studied at GCSE will be broadened and matured. The topics will provide you with the language and skills to talk about the issues relevant to you.

The topics we cover in Year 12 are:

- Social issues and trends (family life, the digital world, youth culture)
- Artistic culture in the Spanish speaking world (festivals, traditions, art and cultural life)
- Grammar
- Film (Volver – Pedro Almodóvar)

You will sit internal Year 12 exams in the summer to assess your progress.

The Upper Sixth (Year 13)

The second year of the A level course has been specifically designed to complement the first. You will build on the skills you have developed over the previous year and use your knowledge and growing linguistic expertise to explore a wider and deeper syllabus and more complex grammar.

The topics we cover in Year 13 are:

Social issues and trends (immigration, racism and multi-culturalism)
Political and artistic culture (monarchies and dictatorships, youth of today, popular movements)
Grammar
Text (la casa de Bernarda Alba – Lorca)
Individual Research Project (for speaking examination)

The exam

There will be 3 papers for the A Level Exam. These are:

Paper 1 Listening, Reading and Writing (40%)

Paper 2 Writing Exam (30%)

Paper 3 Speaking Exam (30%)

In **Paper 1** which lasts 2 hours and 30 minutes, there is a listening section and a reading section with comprehension questions. For the listening, you control the recording and can listen again as much as you want. In the writing section, there are two 100-word translations, one from English to Spanish and one from Spanish to English.



In **Paper 2** which lasts 2 hours, you will write two 300-word essays from a choice of two questions on the film and two questions from the book.

In **Paper 3** which lasts 21-23 minutes, you will discuss a stimulus card on one of the first two topics above. You will need to defend and justify your opinions. A further presentation and discussion of your research project will follow. This is a topic you have chosen that interests you. You do your own research and we then have a conversation about it.

What else can you expect?

- Small class sizes – more attention from the teacher.
- A variety of teaching methods – seminars, role-play, debates, independent study, research.
- Access to our online learning space and other online resources.
- Helping in KS3 classes and on school trips.
- Extra dedicated 1:1 conversation class with the Spanish language assistant.
- Opportunity to take part in a variety of local or national competitions in Spanish.

Requirements

You will need at least a 6 at GCSE to study a language at Gordon's.

Spanish at Gordon's

The Spanish Department is assisted by a dedicated foreign language assistant. She is a Spanish national who lives locally and provides an opportunity for students to speak each week with a native speaker to improve their confidence and fluency.

Beyond A Level, the ratio of applicants to courses to study languages are among the best in the country and unemployment rates for language graduates are the lowest after medicine, dentistry and education. 30% of language graduates work in business services, 12% in manufacturing, 11% in finance. Wouldn't you like to work for a blue chip multi-national?

Careers

Journalism, Tourism, Medicine, Law, Engineering, Music, Environmental work, Business Management, Politics, Sport, Acting, Constructions, Catering, Hospitality (the list is endless).

Famous people who speak Spanish!

Tom Hiddleston	Gwyneth Paltrow
Chris Hemsworth	Will Smith
Kourtney Kardashian	David Beckham
Ben Affleck	Tom Daley
Matt Damon	

SPANISH

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Mrs J Quinlan

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Exam Board

AQA

Specification

7692

COURSE DETAILS

Examination

The course is examined as a whole at end of Year 13.

Unit 1: Social issues and trends including aspects of Hispanic society such as values, cyberspace, equal rights and a focus on multiculturalism in Hispanic society which also comprises Immigration, Racism and Integration. The third aspect of this unit is grammar.

Unit 2: Political and artistic culture which includes Artistic culture in the Hispanic world, modern day idols, regional identity and cultural heritage. The second part of this unit is aspects of political life in the Hispanic World with subtopics of today's youth tomorrow's citizens, monarchies and dictatorships and popular movements.

There is also a section which is examined and which has optional content where students will study literary text and one film. The film – *Volver Pedro Almodóvar* and text - *La Casa de Bernarda Alba, Lorca*.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Exam Papers Year 13	% of GCE	Details
Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing	50%	What's assessed? Aspects of Hispanic society, Artistic culture in the Hispanic society, Multiculturalism in Hispanic Society, Aspects of political life in Hispanic society. Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes.
Paper 2: Writing	20%	What's assessed? One text and one film. Written exam: 2 hours.
Paper 3: Speaking	30%	What's assessed? Individual research project. One of four sub-themes. Oral exam 21 – 23 minutes.

WIDER READING

- Ian Gibson: Fire in the Blood - The New Spain (details changes in Spain over the last century until modern times)
- Victoria Hislop: The Return (insight into the Spanish Civil War)
- Rosa Montero: La Hija del Canibal (novel) 1997
- Turk, P, Thacker, M. (2018) Palabra por palabra : Spanish Vocabulary for AQA A Level
- Turk, P, Zollo, M, Villatoro, F. (2018) ¡Acción Gramática!: Spanish Grammar for A Level



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