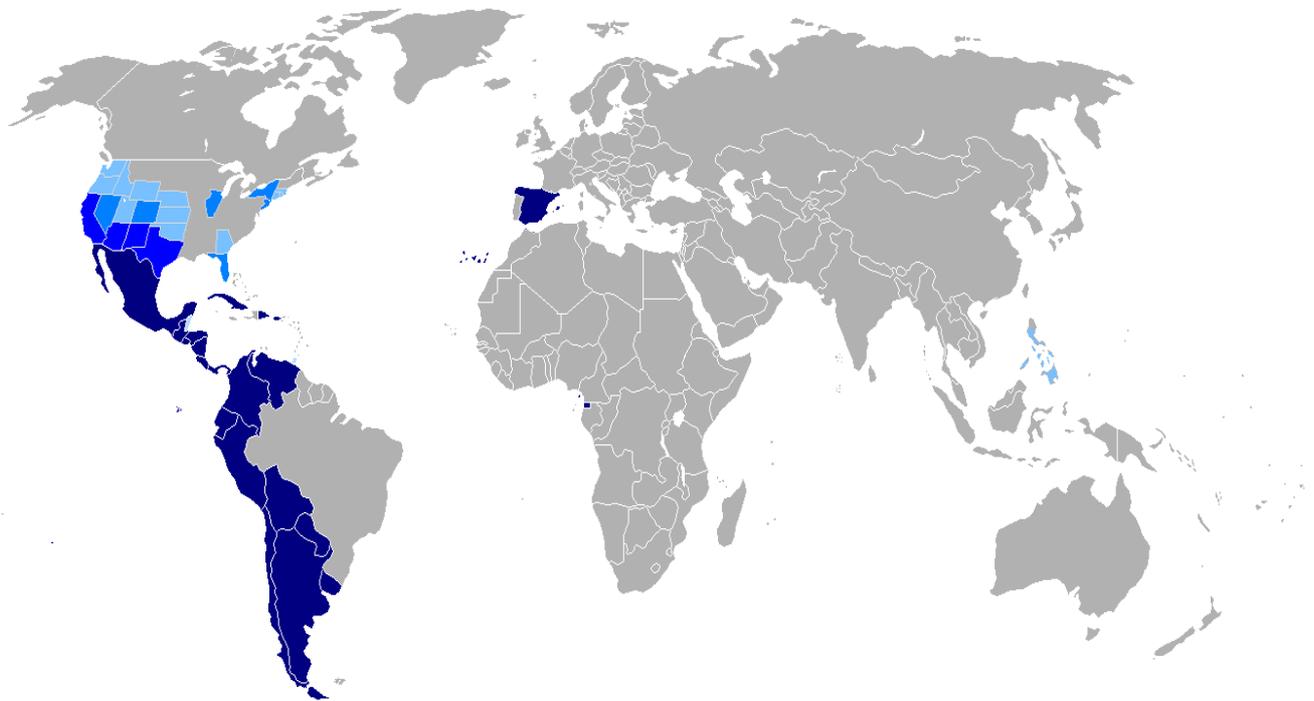




SPANISH

A Level Subject Information



Spanish A level

Examination Board - EDUQAS

This specification enables learners to develop and build upon knowledge, understanding and cultural appreciation by using authentic spoken and written sources through a stimulating course of study.

Subject Content

This A Level Spanish specification offers learners a rich and detailed insight into the social issues and trends, political, intellectual and artistic culture of the countries and communities where Spanish is spoken.

Learners are expected to access authentic written and spoken material in Spanish including from online media, in the course of their language study.

The following topic areas are studied during the 2 Year A level course:

Social issues and trends	Political, intellectual and artistic culture
<p>Being a young person in Spanish-speaking society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Families and citizenship• Youth trends and personal identity• Education and employment opportunities	<p>Understanding the Spanish speaking world</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regional culture and heritage in Spain, Spanish-speaking countries and communities• Festivals customs and traditions, historical sites.• Media, art, film and music in the Spanish-speaking world
<p>Diversity and difference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Migration and integration• Cultural identity and marginalisation• Cultural enrichment and celebrating difference• Discrimination and diversity	<p>The two Spains: 1936 onwards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• El franquismo: Origins, development and consequences.• Post-Civil War Spain.• Spain- coming to terms with the past?

Assessment Information

The final examination is made up of three components covering two years' work:

1. Speaking assessment
2. Listening, reading and translation paper
3. Critical and analytical response in writing

Component	Form of assessment	Length of exam	% of marks overall
1	Speaking	21-23 minutes	30%
2	Listening, Reading and Translation	2 hours, 30 minutes	50%
3	Critical and analytical response in writing (closed book)	2 hours	20%

The independent research project

The independent research project forms an important part of the speaking assessment at A level. It provides learners with the opportunity to choose an area of personal interest for independent study through which they will be encouraged to broaden their knowledge and appreciation of the countries or communities where Spanish is spoken.

This component gives opportunities for learners to select an aspect of study that interests them related to the countries or communities where Spanish is spoken.

What qualities do you need to be successful?

To succeed in the subject, a number of skills are needed. The most basic of these is the enjoyment of using words. A capable student will find genuine interest in producing complex sentences and will analyse closely the various links with English, or alternatively the areas where the languages differ. In addition to having an interest in words and expressions, a successful student will show a willingness to undertake learning of the details. The vocabulary of A Level goes beyond basic ideas, extending into politics, sociology, character study and many areas of culture. As an extension to this point, students do need social awareness and the ability to argue and develop ideas of everyday concern. Underlying all these abilities is attention to detail, in particular, having the precision which makes ideas and expressions clearly understandable.

To what career opportunities can the subject lead?

The study of a language at A level is highly valued by employers. In its own right, it has very good academic standing and provides evidence of intellectual stamina and clear thinking.

A recent skills survey by the Confederation of British Industries (CBI) shows the major European languages – French, Spanish, German – are those most commonly mentioned as being in demand. The major European economies are still the largest export markets for British goods and are likely to remain so after Brexit. The growing demand for Spanish reflects its use both in Europe and Latin America.

There is increasing demand for language skills in jobs involving all kinds of customer service. The UK has a shortage of people who can combine language skills with other specialisms. Employers

often say they don't just want specialist linguists, but people with skills such as engineering, law, chemistry etc. who also can speak a foreign language.

Spanish A level results at NHGS

	A*-B	A*-E
2019	75%	100%
2018	88.9%	100%
2017	100%	100%

Extra- curricular activities for Spanish A level Students

Spanish A level students from NHGS have the opportunity to:

- Participate in national and international competitions
- Coach younger students at NHGS

To get ahead in Spanish:

- a) Know all your verb structures and tenses. This is essential!
- b) Establish a system for collecting new vocabulary. You may want to divide them into different topic areas.
- c) Learn vocabulary regularly and thoroughly.
- d) Aim to incorporate what you've learnt into your own written and spoken Spanish.
- e) After each lesson, reread any article you have studied and note down any further vocabulary. You may well find on the second reading that comprehension of the article is easier.
- f) Find other articles in Spanish relating to the same topic on the internet and get used to reading Spanish regularly on your own.
- g) Choose articles that interest you.
- h) Don't worry if you don't understand every word. With certain articles you find, it may be more worthwhile reading quicker and looking for gist.
- i) As you read, consider the grammatical structures being used.
- j) Try and listen to as much spoken Spanish as you can. Try for example listening to one of the Spanish radio stations through the internet.
- k) Every week go on the web and find out about what is going on in the Spanish speaking world (e.g. media, politics, sport, people...).
- l) Practise reading out loud and think about pronunciation and intonation.
- m) Try and find somebody else with whom you can speak Spanish.
- n) Keep to homework deadlines; don't let your work mount up.
- o) Don't be afraid to talk to your teachers if you need more help.
- p) If you get the opportunity to visit Spain... do it!

How can you find out more?

Further information is available from **Ms Harrison, Mr Marston or Ms Keeler** or any other member of the Languages' Department.