



FRENCH / SPANISH

QUALIFICATION: A Level

Examination Board AQA (7692 / 7652)

What do I need to know or be able to do before taking this course?

You will need to have a good understanding of the grammatical concepts covered in the GCSE course. Your productive language skills, (writing and speaking) will need to be strong, and you should have been successful on higher tier papers and gained a grade 6 or higher at GCSE.

You will need to have an interest in current affairs and enjoy discussing and debating a variety of issues.

An interest in Europe and matters relating to the country whose language you are studying is desirable.

What will I learn on this A Level course?

- To extend the range of your language skills;
- How to carry out effective research;
- To explore a number of topic areas through the medium of the foreign language;
- To learn more about the culture of the foreign country concerned;
- To learn more about the history of the country concerned, through the medium of the language;
- Topics will range from 'the media' and 'leisure' to 'the environment' and 'society'.

What kind of student is this course suitable for?

This course will appeal to students who:

- have enjoyed learning the language at GCSE;
- enjoy communicating in the foreign language;
- have an interest in the country whose language they are studying;
- enjoy reading a variety of materials, literary and non-literary;
- wish to combine a foreign language with other A level courses to complement these courses and widen their possibilities for future career choices.
- are able to motivate themselves to learn independently as well as in a classroom.

What does the course cover?

The core content includes:

1. Social issues and trends
2. Political and artistic culture
3. Grammar
4. Literary texts and films

What examinations will I have to take to get my qualification?

Unit	Type	Exam	Marks
1	Listening; Reading; Writing	2 Hours 30 Minutes	50%
2	Writing (based on book / film studied)	2 Hours	20%
3	Speaking (based on an individual research project)	20 Minutes (inc 5 minutes prep time)	30%

Types of Activities

Listening

A variety of task types including true / false, gap fill, sequencing, questions in English, questions in the target language.

Reading

A variety of task types including true / false, gap fill, questions in the target language, translation into English / Target language, manipulating verbs / adjectives.

Writing

Responding to stimulus material, about the film / books studied. Students will need to write 2 essays of approximately 300 words each. Essays will need to be critical and analytical.

Speaking

Responding to stimulus material, discussing the issues involved and putting forward one's point of view, giving reasons for them. Then, a discussion of topics researched based on personal choice and interests around target language countries.

What could I go on to do at the end of my course?

- Follow a degree course in languages or combine a language with another subject at degree level. Language graduates are among the most likely to find a suitable job at the end of their degree;
- Use the language in the world of work – fewer and fewer UK citizens are learning a foreign language to a high standard, so their skills make them highly employable.
- Use the skills you have learned by studying a language. It is widely recognised as a difficult subject and therefore highlights dedication and resilience: all qualities looked for by employers.

Additional Information

There is the possibility of undertaking work experience in and/or visits to France/Spain and students will be given the opportunity to attend enrichment courses, such as language conferences ran by the Association for Language Learning.