

Aims of the course:

The course will help you to develop your general study skills, but most of all you will learn to communicate at a higher level in Spanish. You will also learn much more about a wide range of aspects of the society or societies in which the language is spoken.

Reading—You will be able to read, understand and extract information from written passages in the target language taken from authentic sources, such as magazines and newspapers, reports or books.

Listening—You will be able to listen to and understand contemporary spoken language and answer questions on what you have heard. The passages that you will learn to listen to will be taken from a range of sources such as news reports on the radio or TV, weather forecasts, announcements, interviews and discussions.

Speaking and Writing—You will learn how to write essays or longer pieces and to hold conversations and discussions in the target language. You will learn all the appropriate grammar, words and phrases that will help you to:

- Present information in the target language
- Provide opinions and justify them
- Organise your argument
- Analyse your ideas

What are lessons like?

All lessons are held in specialised language classrooms.

Audio and visual equipment is available.

Course content:

Year 12 Topics
Aspects of Spanish speaking society: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern and traditional values • Cyberspace • Equality of the sexes • Spanish regional identity • Cultural heritage • Cinema (with in-depth study of one film) • One literary text • Modern day idols
Year 13 topics
Multiculturalism in Hispanic society: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immigration • Racism • Integration • Politics • Monarchies and Dictatorship • Popular Movements

How you will be assessed

Year 13	
Paper 1	Listening, Reading & Writing – 2hrs 30 minutes, 50% of final marks.
Paper 2	Cultural essay - 2 hours 20% of final mark. Topic - 1 book and 1 film.
Paper 3	Speaking exam - 23 minutes, 30% of marks. Topic - Aspects of Spanish society, political and artistic culture + a presentation on a Hispanic subject of their choice.

Recommended resources:

- BBC Mundo
- 'Hoy hablamos' podcasts
- <http://www.s.altavista.com>
- <http://www.aboutspanish.com>

Where can this course lead to?

Learning another language can boost your job prospects as never before. For as well as traditional careers such as teaching, interpreting and translating, there are plenty of jobs for language specialists in industry and commerce.

Languages can boost your pay as well as your prospects: research shows that linguists' salaries are on average 8% higher than workers without language skills.

[Career Mail: Daily Mail Thursday February 28 2012]

This course will be essential to anyone wishing to study Spanish at degree level. Guidance on which course and where to study is also available.

Why study Spanish at St Mary's College Sixth Form?

A Level Spanish is for **you**, if you:

- are interested in people and want to be able to talk to them in their language
- are creative
- want to be able to express your opinions and ideas
- want to explore the language in more detail than at GCSE
- want to become fluent in another language
- want to take part in debates and discussions in Spanish
- want to use IT
- want to learn more about a wide range of subjects and issues that are important today
- want good career and travel opportunities in the future