



Spanish

One year AS/Two year A level.

Despite the popular misconception that everybody speaks English, 75% of the world's population do not, and as Britain plays its part in the EU and businesses become increasingly international, there has never been such an important time in our history to learn a foreign language. It is also a great way learn about another culture whilst having fun at the same time. It is now estimated that Spanish is the third most widely spoken language, and by learning it you will not only improve your employability, but you will find a whole new range of possibilities and experiences at your fingertips.

At Havering Sixth Form College we aim to open your mind to the fascinating aspects of the language and cultures of the Spanish-speaking through our innovative teaching and a range of activities such as residential trips to Spain. In the College's 2009 OFSTED inspection the teaching in the Modern Foreign Languages Department was rated as 'outstanding'.

Requirements:

The College minimum to start an advanced level course is one grade B and four grade Cs at GCSE. Students wishing to undertake this course require grade B or above in the language in the higher GCSE papers together with grade C or above at GCSE English Language. The student will also be expected to meet the Average Points Score for this subject. Students with grade C in a Higher Paper may be considered with Departmental approval. If you have not previously studied Spanish at GCSE you can begin AS Spanish provided you have a grade A/A* in a related language and complete a series of tasks prior to starting the course.

This subject will focus on:

- effective communication in conversations;
- reading and understanding texts;
- writing extended essays in the foreign language;
- listening to and comprehending the spoken language;
- how the language works; and
- the key social and cultural aspects of relevant countries.

You can expect to:

- express ideas and opinions about key modern issues in written form;
- talk about important issues with your tutor and the language assistant in the target language;
- develop the ability to understand discussion of current affairs in the spoken and written language; and
- study two cultural topics in greater depth in the second year.

Method of assessment:

Assessment is by examination.

Progression:

Languages are a valuable asset in almost all areas of the working world; business, finance, teaching, translation, retail, civil service, international organisations. Many university courses can also be combined with a language to give you that extra edge to your qualification. It is estimated that having a second language can increase your salary between 8 – 20%.

Other information:

Charlotte Guilliland, an ex Abbs Cross student now studying A Level Spanish said: "Our Spanish lessons are really well organised and engaging. In addition to our main lessons we also have a weekly one-to-one session with a native Spanish speaker which is a great help in preparing for the speaking exam. I have really enjoyed the course this year and would recommend it to anyone with an interest in languages".

Spanish A Level has had a 100% pass rate for the last three years.