

A level Spanish

Why study Spanish?

- You enjoy communicating with others.
- You want to learn more about other cultures, including films, TV and literature.
- You might like to work abroad in the future
- You wish to increase your employability: language specialists usually get preference over other candidates of identical ability who don't have a language.
- Whatever you decide to do as a career, it is highly likely that you will one day find yourself working for a multinational company or for a firm with connections abroad: in Spain or South America.
- The demand by companies for executives, management, scientists and sales people to be multilingual is ever increasing. Employers say they want people with skills such as engineering, law, chemistry, etc, who can also speak a foreign language.



Why study Spanish at Solihull Sixth Form College?

You will develop language skills in a wide variety of ways, making full use of our two Multi-Media Language Labs and drawing on a range of sources from course books to Internet and satellite TV. In class you will carry out a lot of pair and group work designed to build up your communicative skills. Our VLE also has a range of interactive exercises including vocabulary learning and listening work. Each week, in addition to mainstream lessons, you will have contact with a native speaker through small group conversation sessions. We 'bridge the gap' from GCSE to A level with considerable study skills support, and by Year 13 students are able, for example, to write confident summaries of off-air news items in lunchtime workshop sessions. Students can undertake a work experience placement in Spain via Halsbury Work Experience. This is a post-GCSE course.

Case Study

Among the recent successful students to have taken this course is **Emily Doras**.

She came to the College from Coleshill School and studied Spanish, English Literature and Biology.

She achieved an A* grade in Spanish and A grades in her other subjects. She is continuing with her language studies by reading Hispanic Studies with Portuguese at the University of Warwick.



"The thing about the College was there were always opportunities for praise and reward of good work, which really boosted my confidence. The Learning Resource Centre provided an expansive range of reading materials and films for Modern Languages, which were not only beneficial in my personal statement, but also helped to boost my intellectual curiosity."
- student Emily Doras



Course Outline

There are 3 components:

Speaking unit: 21-23 minute discussion with examiner including 5 minute preparation time

Listening, Reading and Translating: Comprehension recordings and texts based on authentic material

Writing: 2 essays in Spanish on a book and a film.

Assessment

No Coursework

Examination (100%)

Examining Board – Eduqas.

Special Entry Requirements

You need to have at least grade 5 in GCSE Spanish and must have done Higher Level. The great majority of entrants have grade 6 or better. These are in addition to our standard A level entry requirements - www.solihullsf.ac.uk/courses/entry-requirements.

Prohibited Options

Languages can be combined with any subject at A level. Studying two languages is a particularly good option.

What do our students go on to do?

Joint degree combinations are very popular, for example combining Spanish with another language, or Law, English, Business, Tourism, or indeed a wide range of other disciplines. Students going on to employment or training progress into areas such as retail and leisure and tourism.

Cost Implications

Approximately £12 for a good bilingual dictionary. A work experience placement starts from about £500. You will also need to buy the set text in Spanish (approx £10).

Examination Results

In the past three years, there has been great success for students on this course, including consistent 100% pass rates. The full breakdown of results is as follows:

Year	Entry	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	A-E%
2018	20	0	4	4	5	4	3	0	100.0%
2019	13	2	4	3	3	1	0	0	100.0%
2020	20	2	7	7	4	0	0	0	100.0%

Contact

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