



Modern Foreign Languages

French / Spanish

Exam Board: AQA



AS and A Level

The study of MFL at AS/A2 level aims to develop the capacity to converse fluently and write competently on contemporary and cultural issues. Moving away from GCSE topics you will learn to discuss issues ranging from reality TV to the effects of globalisation. You will develop the skills necessary to sustain arguments and present a personal research project. You will broaden your knowledge and understanding of modern society problems and study specific examples in the countries where the language is spoken. The course adds a cultural dimension to your work as we study the works of famous film directors or authors, again aiming to develop critical analysis skills and the ability to build an argument.

Entry Requirements

French/Spanish GCSE Grade B or bi-lingual capability

AS Level Course Information

Paper 1:

Listening, reading and writing (1 hour 45) 40% of AS course

Aspects of French-speaking society:
Hispanic society, current trends

Artistic culture in the French-speaking world:
Hispanic world

Grammar

Translation into English

Paper 2:

Writing (1 hour 15) 30% of AS course

Translation into French/Spanish.

Either one question in French/Spanish on a set text from a choice of two questions or one question in French/Spanish on a set film from a choice of two questions (approximately 250 words).

Paper 3:

Speaking (12-14 minutes) 30% of AS course

Discussion of two sub-themes (6–7 minutes on each) with the discussion based on a stimulus card for each sub-theme. The student studies the cards for 15 minutes before the test begins.



A Level Course Information

Paper 1:

Listening, reading and writing (2 hours 30) 40% of A Level course

Aspects of French-speaking/Hispanic society: current trends

Artistic culture in the French-speaking/Hispanic world

Aspects of political life in the French-speaking/Hispanic world

Multiculturalism

Grammar

Translation into English; a passage of minimum 100 words.

Translation into French/Spanish; a passage of minimum 100 words.

Paper 2:

Writing (2 hours) 30% of A Level course

Either one question in French/Spanish on a set text from a choice of two questions and one question in French/Spanish on a set film from a choice of two questions or two questions in French/Spanish on set texts from a choice of two questions on each text.

Paper 3:

Speaking (21-23 minutes) 30% of A Level course

Individual research project on one of four sub-themes: Aspects of French-speaking/Hispanic society: current trends, Aspects of French-speaking/Hispanic society: current issues, Artistic culture in the French-speaking/Hispanic world, Aspects of political life in the French-speaking/Hispanic world, Multiculturalism.

Be at the forefront of the modern world:

Research on the use of languages in the modern world highlights the need for this country to encourage the study of languages other than English to very high standards of proficiency:

Increased foreign trade, closer European links and the effects of globalisation will increase the demand for skilled linguists in an increasing range of languages. In the global economy too few employees have the necessary language skills to be able to engage fully in international business and too few employers support their employees in gaining additional language skills as part of their job.

The next generation will need high levels of proficiency both as communicators and in the associated technologies. People with high levels of literacy and the experience of learning and using languages are the most likely to be able to exploit new technologies to the full.

(source: CILT research 2009)

Course combines well with:

AS and A2 qualifications in MFL, an academic course which also helps you develop excellent interpersonal skills and adaptability, are amongst the most valued subjects for entry to many Universities. It combines well with any other A Level course but particularly helps enhance your skills in English, History, Religious Studies and Philosophy. It provides solid preparation for Further Education courses or careers in law, politics, business, teaching, journalism and media, tourism or any profession with an international dimension.