

Modern Languages

A Level Languages

We offer A Level French and Spanish at Shelley College. All students have 9 hours of lessons per fortnight with one additional compulsory speaking lesson with our French and/or Spanish FLA, every week.

A Level Spanish

Students study the following themes over the two year A Level course:

- Aspects of Hispanic society
- Multiculturalism in Hispanic society
- Artistic Culture in the Hispanic world
- Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world.

A Level French

Students study the following themes over the two year A Level course:

- Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends
- Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues
- Artistic culture in the French-speaking world
- Aspects of political life in the French-speaking worlds

All A Level French/Spanish students must also study **either** one text and one film or two texts, as decided by their class teacher.

In Year 13 students will carry out an individual research project, on a subject or key question which interests them and relates to one of the countries where French/Spanish is spoken. Students are assessed on this in their final speaking exam in Year 13.

Grammar: All students will study the grammatical system and structures of French/Spanish during the two year course.

Homework: Completion of regular homework is essential at A Level. Students are set 3-4 hours of homework every week. They are also expected to carry out independent learning of vocabulary at home and prepare for FLA lessons.

Assessment

There are three exams at A Level French/Spanish: **Paper 1, Paper 2 & Paper 3.**

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing

50% of A Level.

Written exam : 2 hours 30
minutes 100 marks

Listening Section

Candidates listen & respond to spoken passages from a range of contexts and sources. Questions will target main points, gist and detail. Students will have individual control of the recording.(30 marks)

Reading Section

This section comprises reading and responding to a variety of texts written for different purposes, drawn from a range of authentic sources.(50 marks)

Writing Section

Translation into English; a passage of 100 words minimum. (10 marks)

Translation into French/Spanish; a passage of 100 words minimum. (10 marks)

No access to a dictionary during the assessment.

Paper 2: Writing

20% of A Level
Written exam: 2
hours 80 marks

Candidates are assessed on:

- One literary text and one film **or** 2 literary texts from the set lists
- Grammar

This paper consists of :

- **Either** one essay in French/Spanish on a set text from a choice of two questions and one essay in French/Spanish on the film, **or** 2 essays in French/Spanish on set literary texts from a choice of two questions.
- All essay questions will require a critical response to aspects such as plot, characterisation, imagery and other stylistic features, as appropriate to the work studied.

No access to texts, films or a dictionary during the assessment.

Students are advised to write approximately 300 words for each essay.

Paper 3: Speaking

30% of A Level

Oral exam: 21-23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time) 60 marks

Candidates will be assessed on an individual research project and one of the sub-themes from the specification.

In the speaking exam students will take part in a discussion of a sub-theme, with the discussion based on a stimulus card (5-6 minutes). This will be followed by a presentation & discussion of the individual research project.
(Approximately 12 minutes)