

Jorge Pulleiro

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I am originally from Argentina. A year after graduating from high school, I became an English teacher in my hometown and taught high school English as a Foreign Language for two years at a very young age. My experience was fantastic, and I realized that teaching was my passion. Upon graduating from Brigham Young University, I decided that I needed to serve this country and become a military leader. My six years of service in the US Army were amazing, and they taught me how to acquire great leadership skills and attributes. Later on, I decided to leave the Army to return to the profession that I loved the most: teaching. I joined the Troops to Teachers program which allowed me to work on my teaching certification while I taught full-time. I love teaching, but most importantly, I love my students. To know that I am in front of the future leaders of America and the world is truly an honor. They are the ones who teach me most. I love teaching Spanish and the culture that goes with it. To know a foreign language is so important as we become more globalized and compete with the rest of the world. It opens so many doors and just like Charlemagne once said, “To have another language is to possess a second soul.”

It is true that teaching can be difficult, and sometimes frustrating, but a few years ago I found a quote that touched my heart and changed me as a teacher forever. It says: “And if those children are unresponsive, maybe you can’t teach them yet, but you can love them. And if you love them today, maybe you can teach them tomorrow” (Dr. Jeffrey R. Holland, Former President of BYU, 1980–89).

I cannot even explain how wonderful my teaching experience has been ever since I started applying Dr. Holland’s advice in my life. Love is the key ingredient to solve any problem one might have. As my students feel and know of my genuine love and care, and a relationship of trust is built, then they are ready to learn!



Jorge Pulleiro teaches Spanish at Wood River Middle School in Hailey, Idaho. He is an active member of the AATSP and is the recipient of several awards for his teaching. Some of these include the Loretta Wollet Award (2008), the Toyota International Education Award (2008), and the Fulbright Classroom Teacher Exchange Award (2011). Mr. Pulleiro was also recently spotlighted by the White House as an exemplary Troops to Teachers participant. [Click here](#) for more information on this special recognition.