

Chelsea S. Piche

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Houston, TX

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As a young professional in architecture, my view has been that of what was acquired as an intern while in school and this -- my first post-graduate degree job.

There are so few things that held true while in school and translated so clearly to the job. Additionally, I learned fairly quickly that despite how much I studied, I still knew nothing about architecture despite completing a Master's Degree.

One of those few ideas that translated so well to "the real world" is the concept of a sense of place. A sense of place is not just spacial proportions but also a feeling. It is about understanding the physiological phenomena of human interactions within a space, and the push and pull of the way people experience things with their senses. Subsequently, we analyze how individuals' senses impact their minds and general happiness. In architecture, we become more than just designers of where the nuts and bolts go, but psychologists.

The other concept that carried well after completing school is understanding a balance of work and life. In school, many go on spring break adventures and travel to any place a poor college student can afford to go. It was here we learned how important having a balance between work or school was to real life. It was also here that we began understanding our insignificance in the grand scheme of things and making our time matter. It is only now that I appreciate the charities I donate my time to, the extracurricular sports that I play, and the vacations I take to get some T.L.C.

