



ARCHITECTURE MYTHS

MYTH 1: ARCHITECTS JUST DRAW BUILDINGS

The truth? Drawing is only one tool. Architects also need to research issues, solve problems, collaborate with engineers, and make decisions that affect safety, comfort and how people use spaces.

MYTH 2: YOU HAVE TO BE AN AMAZING ARTIST OR STRONG AT MATH

The truth? First and foremost architects are problem solvers. We have to be just as strong in problem solving and creative thinking as we are in math, science, and art. We have to be able to collaborate with large teams and execute an idea. Architecture is more than just a pretty picture.

MYTH 3: ARCHITECTURE IS ONLY ABOUT BUILDINGS

The truth? Architects design spaces and experiences – from classrooms and hospitals to labs, neighborhoods and stadiums.

MYTH 4: ARCHITECTURE IS A SOLO CAREER

The truth? Architecture is an extremely collaborative career. Architects work with other architects, engineers, contractors, clients, city officials, and sometimes entire communities. Architecture firms themselves vary in size, from 1 person to 400. Finding what you like is important!

MYTH 5: ARCHITECTS ONLY WORK ON NEW BUILDINGS

The truth? Many architects focus on a wide array of existing buildings, working on renovations, adaptive reuse, historic preservation, and sustainability.

MYTH 6: AN ARCHITECTURE CAREER TAKES TOO LONG

The truth? Following college graduation, you can join the work force right away. You can even intern while in school. Licensing does take some time however, you can work through that process while in school and once you start your career.

MYTH 7: THERE IS ONLY ONE TYPE OF CAREER IN ARCHITECTURE

The truth? Architecture careers are diverse. Some architects focus on design, others on planning, research, technology, sustainability, project management or teaching. The possibilities are endless!

MYTH 8: ARCHITECTURE DOESN'T IMPACT EVERYDAY LIFE

The truth? Architecture shapes nearly every aspect of your day. It impacts the spaces we live, work, play, and learn. It also can effect our behavior, emotions, health, and guides our social interactions.

MYTH 9: ANYONE WHO DESIGNS A BUILDING IS AN ARCHITECT

The truth? The term “architect” is for licensed professionals and requires education, experience, and exams. You can still work in the field without this title, your title would be “designer.”

MYTH 10: ONLY CERTAIN KINDS OF PEOPLE CAN BECOME ARCHITECTS

The truth? Architecture is for people who think in different ways. Diverse voices, backgrounds, and perspectives help the profession design better places for everyone.

