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Thakur, A. (2009). Stepping into the ‘ Real World Architecture Preparedness for Professional Practice. College Journal, 910-922 The studytries to understand the view of architectural students, from two different programs, regarding the level of preparation they have before entering professional practice. The main method used in data collection was the qualitative research method. The dependent variable is the perception of the students, which is being investigated in the study. The independent variable is the categorical variable, which involves School A and School B. Data collection was done using observation notes and conducting focus group interviews. Transcribed interviews and observation were analyzed for content. The findings revealed five criteria that define the concept of professional practice. They include:   
Budgetary Concerns   
Understanding the Design Firm Dynamics   
Communicating in the Field   
Technical and Legal Concerns   
Precedent Studies   
Technical and legal concerns was identified as the most important concern that the students felt should be incorporated in their studies. The results of the study seem to support the effectiveness of the theory of case based learning. Many students feel that they are not being effectively prepared for professional practice. The lack of experience and connection with the professional world are some of the concerns raised by the students. A section of the students felt that creative design is sufficient to prepare them for their field of work. In conclusion, the study identifies the different concerns regarding preparation of students for professional practice. Communication abilities should be part of the higher education program to help students communicate effectively in their professional field. The study recommends further research to determine the effectives of the strategies like case study learning methods. Incorporation of the communication skills and case study learning method is likely to equip students with skills needed in professional practice.