

# Matt Gomes Spotlight

*Written by Briana  
Rosiles*

**Major:**  
**Architectural Studies**

**Briana Rosiles:** What you have enjoyed most about the CM program?

**Matt Gomes:** I consider it a privilege to be part of such an amazing program. I have enjoyed getting to know and work with the students and staff in this department. They are incredible people who

have a passion for the program and the industry. One of the things I appreciate most about this department is that it provided a platform for the Architectural Studies program to become a reality. The program has given me a path to follow my goals as well as opportunities I never imagined I would have been afforded with at Fresno State.

**Briana:** What experience, knowledge or skills have you been able to apply in a professional work setting?

**Matt:** Most, if not all, that I have learned in this program has been applicable in my internship/job experience. Knowledge of programs such as Revit and Bluebeam, technical construction skills and concepts concerning the legal aspect of the industry have all complemented the architectural design knowledge I have gained through this program to give me a competitive skill set that is essential to securing a position after graduation or even before. I appreciate the breadth of knowledge I have gained through close proximity with the CM department. In comparison, I have talked with students pursuing architecture at other institutions and they often lack the technical knowledge that goes hand in hand with the design skills.

**Briana:** What advice would you give your freshman self?

**Matt:** I would remind myself that four years is not a lot of time: do your best and get involved as much as possible.

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MATT GOMES



**Briana:** Who has been your favorite professor?

**Matt:** All of the professors in this department are truly exceptional. Each one exudes passion for and knowledge of the industry. I have learned so much from each of them. However, if I had to choose, I would say Michelle Randel. I have had the privilege of taking several courses with Michelle who has invested in my education and in my future. I am truly grateful for everything she has done to help me attain my dreams and would likely not be as far as I am without her.

**Briana:** Do you plan on pursuing a Master's Degree?

**Matt:** I have considered pursuing either a Master of Architecture degree or a Master's in Business.

**Briana:** What has been your favorite part of the program?

**Matt:** I love all the various opportunities this program provides. For example, one of the highlights of my career here at State was the Student Design Competition last year. This was our school's first time entering the competition and our students were awarded first, second and third. I was awarded second. Not only was it a great exercise in design, but we got to meet, interact with and even be critiqued by some of the industry professionals in our area.

**Briana:** Where do you see yourself in 5-10 years?

**Matt:** An Architect license takes about that long to receive. I will spend the next few years working under an Architect as well as taking the required tests to receive licensure.

**Briana:** What do you hope to do with your degree?

**Matt:** I plan to use this degree to give me a footing to achieve licensure. I plan on becoming a licensed Architect. I have considered opening up my own Architecture firm in the future but, we'll see how the next few years unfold.

**Briana:** Who has been your biggest supporter?

**Matt:** I would say the biggest supporters in my life are my family, especially my mom. I would not be anywhere near where I am today without her constantly pushing me to do and become better. From practically forcing me to apply to Fresno State to listening to work/school drama after a long day, having that support makes the world of a difference.

**Briana:** Did you do an internship, if so where?

**Matt:** I was hired in April 2018 as an intern by Gonzalez Architects and have been there ever since. I plan to stay here and learn after graduation. I am working with education and healthcare facilities (including Valley Children's Hospital) and learning how to manage those projects as well as interface with the required government agencies.

**Briana:** Why did you consider CM/ Architecture?

**Matt:** Architecture has been my dream for as long as I remember. In fact, I remember as a kid, everyone always asked what I wanted to be when I grew up. I didn't know all the things you could be, so I asked and someone told me that there were people who created houses! I don't know when I decided that it was for me, but recently, I found some kindergarten papers of mine that said, "When I grow up, I want to be: A HOUSE BUILDER".