Design tutorial in the new century

From April to August every year, I wake up early on Saturday morning because I have online architectural weekend tutorials between the US and Japan. I have taught long as an online tutor. Although weekend tutorials, the students who turn up weekend are incredibly improved every year.

The third-year undergraduate students live their own "chill" and design housing. By the way, the students played anonymously as ex-students who studied on the same online system. After work, the former students who became professionals come back and have meetings online with current students. In their meeting via displays, the young students relieve their frustration from real clients.

Therefore, there are many different types of design brief on each students and the tutorial is required for a lot of people. It is the totally different tutorial process from the one which I was a student in 20th century. The self-motivated students can develop their ideas in texts, sketches, and 3D CAD model many times. I reply comments and sketches at lunch time. It is like an endless pitch and catch. However, the repetition is necessary to brush up their ideas. The digital natives are talkative on displays as well as more than in the real world.

The things which I would like to tell in online tutorials are determination to be professional as well as architectural basic knowledge and theories. As Dr. Inazo Nitobe spread the Japanese soul in his book, "Bushido" in English directly to all over the world, I can tell students about the architectural world outside Japan through this online system. I believe that earnest reaches to them even online.

The professor, who is my mentor and invented this online tutorial, said, "The education is like a seed and grown as well as teach and grow." I deeply understand now after many endless pitch and catch. Unfortunately for us in the evolving digital technology, we can't pitch and catch at a distance of 9850km. I can tell students my experience because of far away from Japan it is my role as an online design tutor.

After two hours, the online tutorial complete. My weekend is spent with warmed up hands because of online pitch and catch on the key board.

21世紀型建築設計教育 9,850km離れたキャッチボール