Paper Assignment 2

Write a five page essay, as a take-home portion of the midterm exam, on the subject of Monet’s painting *la Japonaise*, 1876, which we saw at the Museum of Fine Arts, with the aim of examining “Orientalism” in Monet. How was the painting originally titled? Of the formal aspects of the painting (style, brushstroke, composition, scale) used by Monet, what can be attributed to his modernism, and to his attitude toward the Japanese motif? Employ, whenever possible, evidence gleaned from direct study of the painting. Support these observations with material from lectures and course readings that explore other actions and paintings by Monet (and/or his colleagues and critics) that are engaged with issues of Orientalism and “Japonisme.”

Effective essays will state a thesis in the first page, develop it in the body of the paper, and return to it in a summary conclusion. Cite any sources you use with Humanities-style foot- or end-notes. You are not required to use any sources outside those on reserve for this class. If you use Internet sources, they must also be cited.

*Because it is part of the mid-term, this paper will not receive extra credit for peer review. However, you may consult with the Writing Advisor for editorial (not content) advice.*

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1 Firstname Lastname, “Title of this essay,” *Journal name* Vol. No. (Date), pp. x - xx.

2 Firstname Lastname, course website, [www.mit.edu/MIT4602/](http://www.mit.edu/MIT4602/), date (or at least date available on the web).