

# The Bookstore Expedition

RHET 110N — Jonathan Hunt

Go to Green Apple Books ([greenapplebooks.com](http://greenapplebooks.com)) at 506 Clement Street in San Francisco.

You can ride your bike there in 7 minutes, walk in about 20 minutes or hop on the 31 bus and get there in about 15 minutes.



## 1. Buy two non-fiction books.

Spend a little time browsing around, particularly in the “New Non-Fiction” section of the store.

Look for a relatively serious book that involves some form of research on the part of the author. Look for footnotes and/or a bibliography.

This semester, you’ll read these books and write about them. You’ll analyze their arguments and prose style, their use of evidence, their rhetorical strategies. You’ll examine the book in its rhetorical context, learning about the conversations of which it is a part and finding out how different audiences have reacted to the book.

## 2. Take a picture of yourself at the bookstore and post it to the Canvas discussion, along with the titles of the books you decided to buy.

The criteria again:

- NON-fiction (if you are not sure, ask someone working at the bookstore).
- Something involving research or references to sources (so, NOT a celebrity memoir).

Alternatives:

1. Same procedure, but go to San Francisco’s historic City Lights bookstore (in North Beach at the intersection of Broadway and Columbus). <http://www.citylights.com>
2. Same procedure, but go to Dog Eared Books on 20th & Valencia.
3. Same procedure, but check out two books from USF’s Gleeson Library. Hint: start at the “new books” shelf.

We’ll work with these books through the semester. You’ll

- examine their rhetorical strategies
- study their arguments
- analyze their use of evidence
- research their reception (how reviewers and readers have reacted)
- present your findings
- join the debate