

***THE UNIVERSITY HONORS COLLEGE  
PRESENTS***

***A Bootcamp Grammar: Monoglossia  
and Marine Recruit Training***

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3:15 PM  
Friday, October 16, 2009  
3500 Cathedral of Learning**

**Marines talk differently than civilians. At boot camp they learn a whole new way of speaking, from "sounding off" to learning a new lexicon ("bulkheads, go-fasters and moonbeams"). They learn the grammar of bootcamp, and it's instrumental in their transformation from "nasty" civilians to "squared away" Marines. Within this linguistic socialization process we can see "monoglossia" at work—Mikhail Bakhtin's identification of the uniform, homogeneous group aspect of language. Marine recruit training is one of the few places to see monoglossia explicitly, and this monoglossic aspect of bootcamp has implications for theories of language. William Marcellino is a former Marine officer and PhD student in the Rhetoric program at Carnegie Mellon university, where his research focus is military rhetoric. His publications include work on feminist utopian fiction and Ursula LeGuin in the *Journal of American Culture*, and with Barbara Johnstone, a chapter in the forthcoming *Sage Handbook of Sociolinguistics*.**

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