Level III:
Level III in the German Studies Department’s integrated four-year undergraduate curriculum is the first level that allows students to choose between different thematic foci. Süße Pein: Portrayals of love and hate in German culture from the present to the Middle Ages (301 & 302) is the standard offering each year, but there are also additional electives offered each year with different thematic yet similar acquisitional emphasis. Regardless of the content, all courses at this level continue to move learners along the narration-explanation-argumentation discursive continuum that forms the basis for the department’s four-year program. Whereas the discursive focus at Levels I and II targeted primarily narration, the focus shifts at Level III to explanation and response. Specifically, emphasis is placed on helping learners develop the abilities to respond to texts by explaining the factors and consequences of different events or situations.