To satisfy a general education area at Cal Poly by taking courses at a California Community College, you will utilize assist.org. Before we look at assist.org, we want you to go to advising.calpoly.edu and download this handout: assist.org handout found on the right-hand side. This handout will show how GE areas at the California Community College will transfer to Cal Poly General Education areas. You want to be careful because some areas are different. For example, this A1: Oral Communication at a California Community College would count as an A2: Oral Communication at Cal Poly. Other things to keep in mind: You’ll notice here that you can take a C2: Humanities course to count as a C1: Literature or a C2: Philosophy at Cal Poly. You would need to take two C2: Humanities courses at a California Community College in order to count for both of these areas. Otherwise, you can take one C2: Humanities course to count as C1 or C2 here at Cal Poly.

A word of caution: if a course has repeat content of a course you have credit for, you will not earn credit twice.

As an example, I will show you how to satisfy a C3 at Cal Poly; you will look for a C1 at a California Community College. Go to assist.org. Let’s use Foothill College an example. Click on the drop down menu that says “Click here to select an institution” and select Foothill College. Select the college that you either plan to attend in person or online. So, I have Foothill selected. Click on “CSU GE-Breadth Certification Courses” and then “Select a CSU GE-Breadth Area.” Remember, to satisfy a C3 at Cal Poly, select a C1 at Foothill.

When the next screen loads, you will see that Foothill is on the quarter system. This means that we are going to be looking for at least four quarter units. If a school is on the semester system, it will say up here. 3 semester units are equivalent to 4.5 quarter units, so if you are trying to satisfy a 4 unit GE course at Cal Poly, you will need to make sure the semester course is at least three units.
As I mentioned, Foothill College is on the quarter system, so we will be looking for courses with at least 4 units. If it is more than 4 units, that is okay; you will just be transferring extra units to Cal Poly.

Something else you want to look for is to make sure there is not a date in the “Date Removed” column. If there is a date in this column next to a course, it will not count. You will see here that this class, Art 2G: Introduction to Islamic Art has SU15 in the “Date Removed” column. This means, that as of Summer 2015, this class no longer counts for this GE area.

To summarize, as long as the class has enough units, does not have a date in the date removed column, and is not too similar of course content of course you have already taken, you will see which courses will count as a C1 at a California Community College, therefore transferring as a C3 to Cal Poly.

Keep in mind that these are just the classes that will count for this GE Area at Foothill College. To see if these courses are being offered, you will need to check the college’s website. If the course is being offered during the term you would like to take it, you will first need to apply to be a student at that institution. Once your admission is granted, you will receive your registration date and time. Then, enroll for the course. Complete the course and once you have a grade, request that the community college send your transcripts to Evaluations at Cal Poly. It can take 1-2 quarters for your credit to be reflected in your Degree Progress Report.

Strongly recommended: if you would like to confirm that your course selections will count prior to taking the course, please contact the Mustang Success Center or your college advising center. Contact information can be found at advising.calpoly.edu.