Welcome! You’re watching this video because you’re interested in taking classes over the summer. We want you to watch this brief introduction video so that when you’re deciding which route to go, you’re making an educated decision. If you ever need assistance or clarification along the way, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Mustang Success Center or your college advising center.

Typically, we see the following options for students: enrolling for Summer Quarter at Cal Poly, taking courses at a California Community College and utilizing assist.org to see how the classes will count at Cal Poly, or you can take courses at an out of state institution or at another four-year institution. All options are available to all students. For any direction that you decide, make sure that the courses you take will satisfy what you’re wanting them to so you’re not wasting your time and money.

There are some things to consider.

If you’re taking a course for grade forgiveness, it must be the exact same course at Cal Poly. If you repeat a course at a community college, grade forgiveness will not apply.

For example, if you took PHYS 121 at Cal Poly, received a C- or lower, and want to replace how that grade counts toward your GPA, you will need to take PHYS 121 at Cal Poly to enact this grade forgiveness.

If you plan on taking a General Education course, be sure you do not need to take a specific course to satisfy that GE area. You can check this on your curriculum sheet found at advising.calpoly.edu.

For example, as you see here, Nutrition majors must take ECON 201 as their D2.

You also want to make sure that you do not take a course that has repeat content from a course you already have credit for. You will not earn credit for the same subject material twice.
For example, if you transferred Advanced Placement credit up to SPAN 121 to Cal Poly, you would not be able to take that level of Spanish or lower and receive credit. You would have to take a higher level Spanish course to receive credit for a new area at Cal Poly.

If you’re planning to take a course during summer to satisfy a prerequisite for a course you plan to take during Fall Quarter, you will want to be strategic. If you’re taking the course at Cal Poly over the summer, the registration system will know that you’re conditionally meeting that prerequisite and will allow you to register for that Fall Quarter class when you register during Spring Quarter. However, if you are not taking the prerequisite course at Cal Poly over the summer and are doing so elsewhere, the registration system will not recognize that you will be completing the prerequisite course over the summer, preventing you from enrolling in that Fall Quarter course. If you take the prerequisite over the summer elsewhere, you will typically have to receive a permission number from the professor of the desired Fall Quarter course after showing documentation of completing the course elsewhere when you return Fall Quarter. This is not a guaranteed process, but it is an option you can pursue.

Lastly, what are you doing after Cal Poly? Some graduate programs like to see that you have taken certain courses at a four-year institution. We encourage you to check the admission requirements and preferences for your desired post-grad program. For the pre-health programs, you are also welcome to visit the Pre Health Career Advising Office in Building 53, Room 211.

With all of this in mind, please view any of the other materials to see which option is best for you. And remember, if you need clarification or have questions, please feel free to reach out to the Mustang Success Center or your college advising center. Contact information can be found at advising.calpoly.edu.