The addition of a lower-order term may be compensated for by a constant multiple of a higher-order term.

Red: $x^{2}$
Green: $x^{2}+x$
Blue: $2 x^{2}$


Upon zooming out a bit, the lower order term hardly makes a difference.

Red: $x^{2}$
Green: $x^{2}+x$
Blue: $2 x^{2}$


If the lower order term has a large coefficient it may take longer to overtake it.

Red: $x^{2}$
Green: $x^{2}+20 x$
Blue: $2 x^{2}$


No coefficient can make up for a higher power of $x$, though larger coefficients stay on top for a longer time.

Red: $x^{2}$
Green: $2 x^{2}$
Blue: $4 x^{2}$
Black: $x^{3}$


