



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
AdvantaGE

AdvantaGE: Migrating Current GenEd Courses



AdvantaGE helps us tell a clearer story about what Mississippi State graduates know—and what they can do.

What is AdvantaGE Migration?

Beginning with the 2028 catalog term, the new AdvantaGE curriculum will replace MSU's previous General Education curriculum. Existing Gen Ed courses will have the option to migrate to the AdvantaGE course list or be removed from the Gen Ed course list. This process has begun in order for all updates to be reflected in DegreeWorks and the Catalog.

Migration means:

- The course fits one of the four AdvantaGE domains (Creative Expression*, Humanities, Social / Behavioral Sciences, or Natural Sciences) or the foundational areas (Written Composition, Oral Communication, or Quantitative Literacy*).

**Domain / Foundation name pending approval in AOP 12.08*

- The syllabus includes:
 - an AdvantaGE syllabus statement.
- The course includes:
 - a signature assignment that assesses domain learning outcomes (for more information about Signature Assignments, see page 4).
- Assessment data will be collected each time the course is taught.
 - SACSCOC requires assessment of all Gen Ed programs. This means all AdvantaGE courses will participate in the assessment process by using a domain-specific rubric and submitting students' Signature Assignment work to the Office of Institutional Research & Effectiveness (OIRE) .

Big Picture Timeline for Departments

Fall 2026– Begin course proposals for courses that will migrate to AdvantaGE. (Working with Domain Subcommittee, identify or develop a Signature Assignment that can be assessed using the domain-specific rubric.)

Spring 2027 – Complete CIM entry for Gen Ed courses (being removed or migrating).

Fall 2027 – Review AdvantaGE course list and curricula to determine if any program changes need to be made and begin updates, as appropriate.

Understanding the Signature Assignment & Assessment

A signature assignment is a carefully designed assignment or compilation of assignments that serve as a summative demonstration of student learning in the General Education domain.

Signature Assignments WILL:

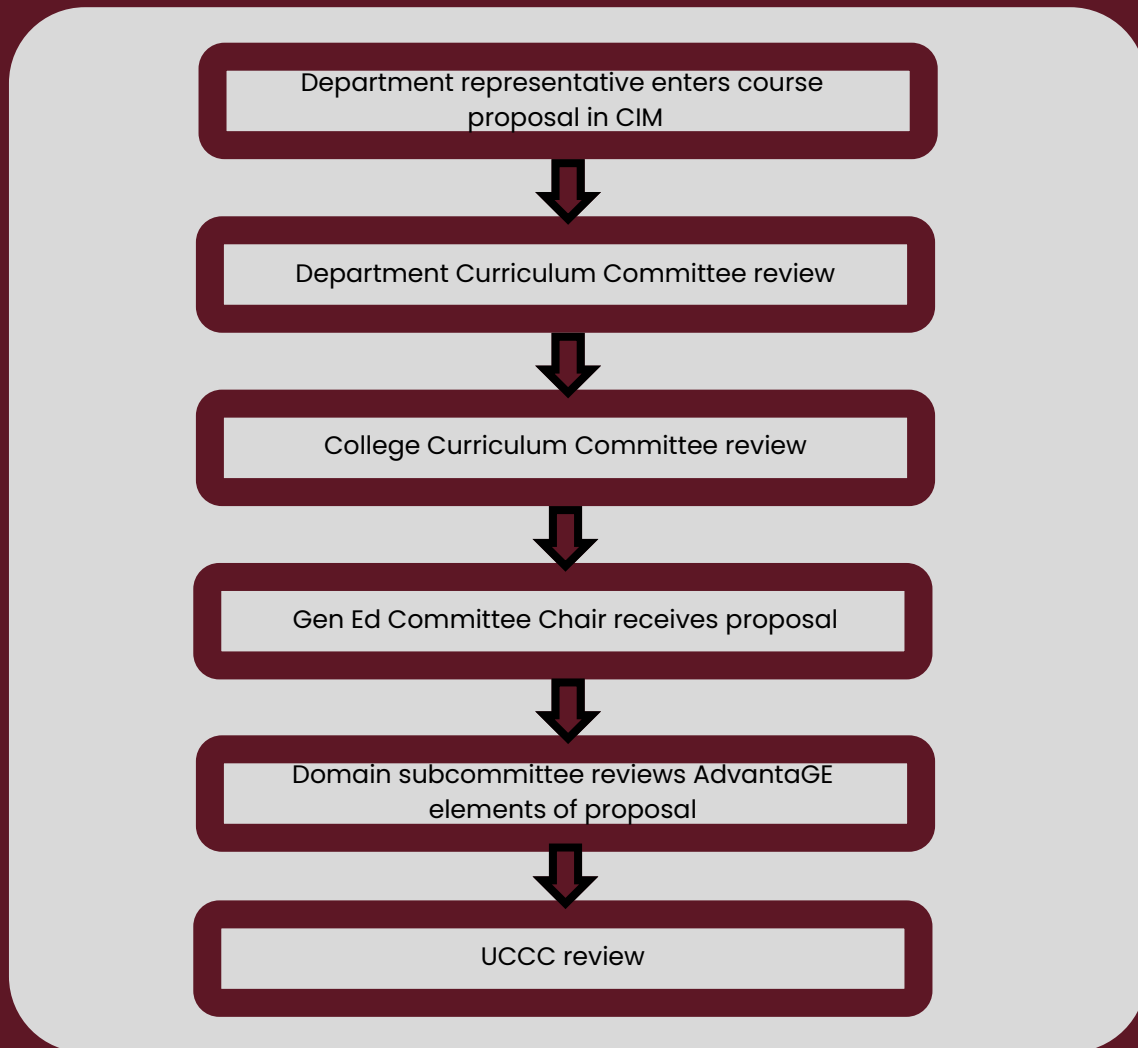
- Be assessed using the provided rubric. *(Note that this does not refer to assignment grading.)*
- Be submitted to OIRE each semester.
- Be used by all sections of the course each semester that the course is taught. *(Note that the assignment details can vary from section to section, but all sections must have an aligned & assessed Signature Assignment)*

Signature Assignments MAY OR MAY NOT:

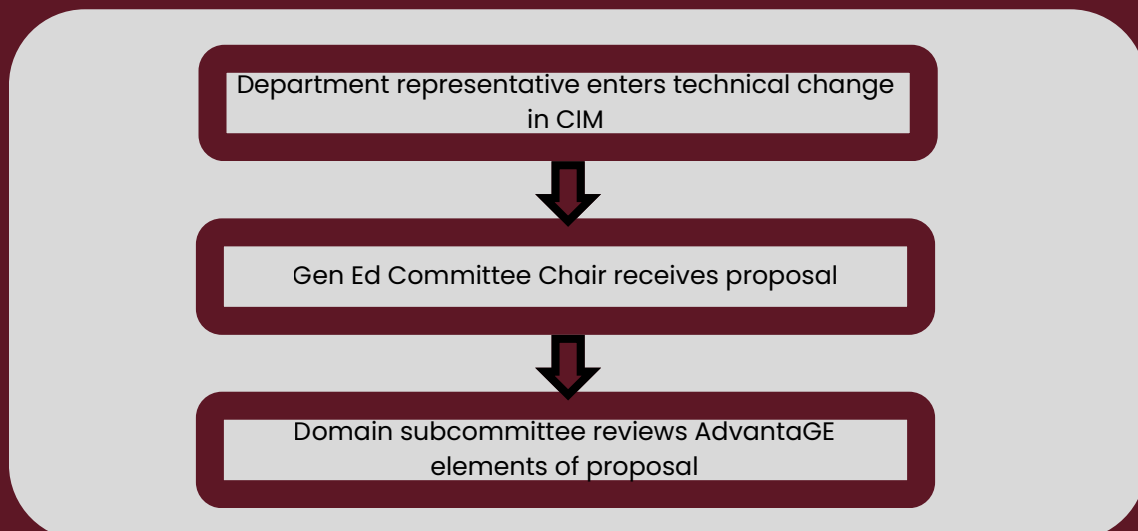
- Be graded by the faculty member using the domain rubric. *(Often faculty will assess other criteria beyond the AdvantaGE rubric.)*
- Be a significant grade in the course. *(Faculty may set the weight of the SA and may choose to collect the work for only a completion grade.)*
- Be one single assignment, a collection of smaller pieces of work, or even questions on a test.

Course Proposal Workflow

For new courses or courses with >25% revision:



For courses with <25% revision – technical changes only to move from Gen Ed to Advantage:





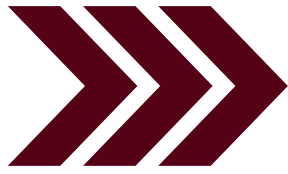
Understanding Migration

Most current Gen Ed Courses will only need technical changes to migrate to AdvantaGE. You will:

- ☐ Determine in which domain the course fits and explain how the course meets the domain's learning outcomes.
- ☐ Add the AdvantaGE Syllabus Statement.
- ☐ Describe the Signature Assignment (Ensure alignment with domain rubric that will be used for assessment).
- ☐ When selecting Effective Term, select the semester after the one in which you are entering the change.

While making the technical change, you might also review the course and, if needed:

- ☐ Make changes to the course title.
- ☐ Update or revise the catalog description.
- ☐ Remove/change course prerequisites.
- ☐ Add campus(es), provided there is no change needed to method of delivery.



Fall 2026 Tasks for Gen Ed Courses

1

Generate list of faculty tasked with migration for each course.

2

Attend AdvantaGE workshop to learn about the process (if desired).

3

Determine which courses intend to migrate & which intend to be removed from AdvantaGE.

4

Identify courses that are likely to require only technical changes and those with challenges that need support or assistance with the process.

5

Begin migration of courses with technical changes and officially remove courses that will not migrate.

6

Identify questions & challenges that need attention and provide support as needed.



AdvantaGE Decision Making

Departments

- **Identify which courses will migrate and which will be removed.**
- Obtain departmental letter of support for migration or removal.
- Initiate any course removals and any technical changes in CIM.
- Propose new courses for addition to AdvantaGE & enter in CIM.

After course is approved:

- Ensure courses are being taught as approved by GEC & UCCC; manage revisions when necessary.
- Manage Signature Assignment data submission to OIRE.
- Evaluate Signature Assignment data to determine if modifications need to be made to courses.

Gen Ed Committee

- Approve technical changes of courses migrating from Gen Ed to AdvantaGE (only examining Gen Ed elements of courses).
- Approve AdvantaGE elements of new courses for inclusion on AdvantaGE list.

Periodically

- Assess a sampling of Signature Assignment submissions using domain rubrics.
 - If learning outcomes are not met OR the Signature Assignment does not seem to align with the domain:
 - Recommendations will be made by the GEC Domain Subcommittee to modify the course or assignment.
 - Reassessment will occur the next year. The course will have two more revision attempts before being removed from the AdvantaGE list.
- Review of Domain learning outcomes and rubrics to ensure they align with current needs.

UCCC

- Approve new courses or courses with greater than 25% changes following Guide & Format for Curriculum Proposals.



When Migration is More Complex



If the course provides only **major-specific content**, departments may consider removing it from Gen Ed.

- *Consider whether the course provides students with generalizable understanding about the subject-matter OR foundational information required for progressing in a specific degree program.*



If the course is **cross-listed**, the listed departments will need to communicate about the decision & agree to changes. Letters of support from each department are requested.



Multi-section courses taught by varying faculty will need to be coordinated and all sections will follow the shared syllabus statement and apply the same General Education domain rubric.

- *Course content and instruction are the responsibility of the department, under the direction of the Dept Head and Dept Curriculum Committee. Individual faculty who teach an AdvantaGE course must adhere to the learning outcomes, syllabus statement and Signature Assignment.*

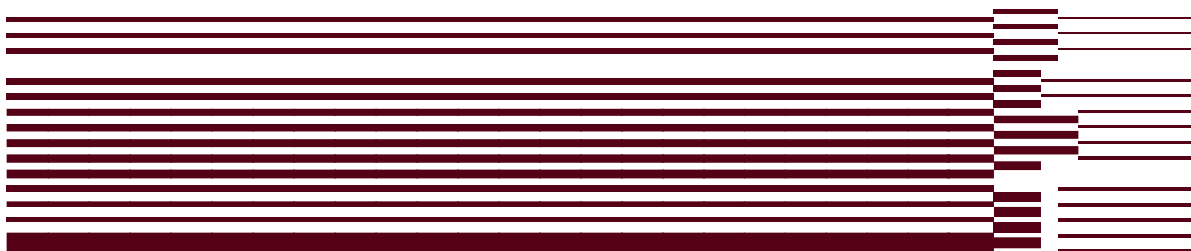


Large volume courses may require assistance in determining how to design a feasible Signature Assignment

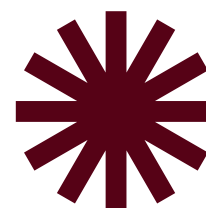
- *In most cases, students will submit papers, projects, or portfolios of work to demonstrate proficiency in AdvantaGE learning outcomes. These assignments may be difficult to use in large classes. Two options may be considered:*
 - *The Signature Assignment may be a "completion only" assignment collected by the faculty member and used for assessment by the AdvantaGE committee but NOT part of the graded work used to calculate the course grade. This may be an in-class writing or reflection or ungraded discussion questions added to a test.*
 - *Answers to designated questions on a multiple-choice-style test could be considered for approval as the Signature Assignment.*



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**Domain / Foundation name pending approval in AOP 12.08*

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