Candler School of Theology’s project, “A Comprehensive Curricular Approach to Financial Literacy,” is being implemented as a three-year program that accompanies students throughout their MDiv careers. In order not to burden students with additional course requirements, Candler is integrating the program into existing curricular structures, including its First-Year Advising and its Contextual Education programs.

While the program has several components, its centerpiece is a series of three 30-minute videos designed to anchor reflection and discussion in each of the three years of the MDiv program. Topics include basic financial literacy for seminary students (Year 1), financial administration in ecclesial settings (Year 2), and financial management for ministerial professionals (Year 3). The videos and accompanying curricular resources (including study guides and focused presentations by professional financial service advisers) are designed both to provide theological reflection on matters of finance and to correspond to a particular stage in students’ experience of the MDiv degree.

First-year students and advisors viewed the first video—*Faith and Finance I: Counting the Cost of Theological Education*—in the fall semester. Discussions of the video with faculty advisors were spread over three one-hour sessions, each focusing on a specific topic addressed in the video: theological context of financial issues, the implications of seminary lifestyle choices, and debt. This spring, each first-year Advising Group is meeting with one of three professional financial advisors for two-hour sessions. The aim of these sessions is to allow students to engage the issues of the video in conversation with an expert on financial management.

First-year students and their faculty advisors are enrolled as participants in a “Faith and Finance Resource Site”, which is designed to grow with the program and severs as a repository for what we plan to be an increasingly broad range of resources related to issues of financial management and stewardship. At this time, the site has three main areas, housing the first video, the associate study guide, and a list of related web links.

Information about this program can be found at <http://www.candler.emory.edu/admissions/financial-aid/financial-literacy.html>. The video itself will soon be viewable on the Financial Literacy website of ATS. The principal investigator is Dr. Ian McFarland, Associate Dean of Faculty and Academic Affairs and Stokes Professor of Systematic Theology. The program director is Rev. James Thomas III, Emory doctoral student.