**Statement of Purpose**

Fitness! Nearly everyone is concerned about their health and well-being! People exercise, change their diets, read books about health, join fitness clubs. And then there is financial fitness. The alarm is sounding and the wake-up call has been made. People everywhere are now realizing that today’s American young people are financially illiterate! Common sense should tell us that most people know how to write checks, use a debit card, use an ATM machine, and reconcile their checking account. Common sense should tell us that parents demonstrate those skills and teach their children the value of a dollar and how to become financially savvy. However, the problem is that our young people are not being taught how to manage money and have no experience managing a checking account. Schools have now been given a new assignment, the task of teaching students how to exercise financially. Students should be required to take a course in Financial Management before they graduate from high school. Some states now have a financial literacy requirement in place. One of the many important units in a Financial Management class is one about Banking and to get even more specific, checking accounts.   
 The purpose of this Checking Account Unit within the Financial Management course is designed to teach the student important financial skills for the present and the future. Skills learned will include knowledge about how to open a checking account, how to manage a checking account, how to write checks and endorse checks, how to use a debit card, how to use an ATM Machine, how to reconcile a checking account at the end of the month, understand overdraft and overdraft protection, understand electronic banking and electronic banking, understand mobile banking, and gain knowledge about bank services such as online bill pay.