

# College Sports in Pennsylvania

by Aaron Hackman

## Standards

- NCSS.1.4.a ...assist learners in articulating personal connections to time, place, and social/cultural systems;
- NCSS.1.4.e ...guide learners as they examine the interactions of ethnic, national, or cultural influences in specific situations or events;
- PA.SS.H.8.1.3.A \_\_\_Understand chronological thinking and distinguish between past, present and future time; Calendar time; Time lines; Continuity and change; Events (time and place)
- PA.SS.H.8.1.3.B \_\_\_Develop an understanding of historical sources; Data in historical maps; Visual data from maps and tables; Mathematical data from graphs and tables; Author or historical source
- PA.SS.H.8.1.3.C \_\_\_Understand fundamentals of historical interpretation; Difference between fact and opinion; The existence of multiple points of view; Illustrations in historical stories; Cause and result

## Resources

### History of College Football

This website is packed with information regarding the history of many college football teams, divided by conference. This website is useful because it would supplement the lecture material by giving background and historical information on college sports history.

### PA Colleges and Universities

This website features a listing of all colleges and universities in Pennsylvania and will serve as a spring board for the internet research assignment.

## **Objectives**

There will be several objectives for this particular lesson. Upon completion of this lesson, the students will have been taught:

- a. The history behind college sports, particularly football and how it relates to Pennsylvania sports history
- b. Students will be able to recall information learned from this lesson and apply it to the homework assignment which is examining the history of college sports.
- c. This lesson will illustrate the role that college sports play in the development of sports history by illustrating connections between college sports and professional sports. These connections could mean changes in lifestyle or progress for a community.

## **Rationales**

This particular lesson is appropriate as college sports is very important in understanding the history of sports and how it relates to the bigger picture of Pennsylvania history and American history. The website on college sports history information is relevant as it gives concrete information for specific sports teams that might be of personal interest to the students.

## **Procedures**

The procedures for the lesson are as follows:

- a. We will begin the lesson with a lecture from the textbook which will lay the framework for the history lesson on college sports.
- b. After the lecture we will look at the website that will also serve as the springboard for the student's homework assignment, to be due the next day.
- c. The homework assignment will involve each student researching a school or to simply pick one and go out on the internet and look up something about it. Once they look up the history and interesting facts for their school, they will be writing up a one-page report to be turned in the next day. The purpose of this assignment is for the students to research the sports program at the school. It is of paramount importance that only the school's main website is used so that only official information is represented. This will eliminate any bias on the athletic program.

The outline for this lecture is as follows:

- I. College Football
  - a. First football game played in New Jersey on November 6, 1869
  - b. First night-time game played in Mansfield, PA on September 28, 1892 with Mansfield State Normal School against Wyoming Seminary.
  - c. Carlisle Indian Industrial School, most notable player Jim Thorpe
  - d. Pennsylvania college sports teams in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century (rise of Penn State football)
- II. Men's Basketball
  - a. Organization of the "Big Five" teams-Philadelphia-area teams
  - b. Current organization of Men's Basketball teams
- III. Women's Sports
  - a. Bryn Mawr College women's sports
  - b. Organization of women's sports teams

## **Materials**

The materials needed for this lesson are the textbook, a projector for the website, and a computer to access the internet.

## **Evaluation/Assessments**

The main evaluation for this lesson will be the homework assignment that the students will be completing. The students will be able to research a school of their choice by looking into their sports program. They will then report on interesting athletic department facts about the school. This assignment would start the students thinking about sports and sports history on an individual collegiate level. At the end of the week, the students will also be taking a multiple choice quiz on the lecture material. This will determine whether the students have been paying attention in class and have understood the material and that it makes sense to them in relation to the bigger picture.

## Assignment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Research one of the schools from the list discussed in class and search on the internet and find out interesting facts about it. (\*\*Use of the schools website is strongly encouraged)

Items to be addressed:

- a: What type of sports are offered at that school?
- b: Interesting team statistics
- c: Ratio of women's sports to men's sports