



**Carolyn Peck**  
**Head Coach (Three Years at UF)**

**1999 Associated Press National Coach of the Year**  
**1999 WBCA National Coach of the Year**  
**1999 Big Ten Coach of the Year**

In just three years as head coach of the University of Florida women's basketball team, **Carolyn Peck** has molded the Gators into model student-athletes. Not only has Florida competed in the postseason in two of her three seasons, but the Gators have accumulated 20 Southeastern Conference Academic Honor Roll accolades, the best three-year total in program history.

Additionally under Peck's watch, two players - Sarah Lowe and Danielle Santos - became the first-ever Gator recipients of CoSIDA Academic All-District 3 honors.

Meanwhile on the court, Florida continued its tradition of playing one of the nation's toughest schedules, with the 2004-05 and 2003-04 slates each rated as the third most challenging in the country. In fact, the 2004-05 Gators were one of only two teams in the court that played three of the four 2005 Final Four teams during the regular season.

In her second year at Florida, Peck orchestrated the greatest one-season turnaround in program history. The 2003-04 Gators posted a 19-11 overall record, winning 10 more games than they did in 2002-03, when the team posted a 9-19 record. The 1982-83 team posted an 11-16 record that was followed by a 19-9 record the next season.

What makes the one season swing even more impressive is the fact that UF's schedule was ranked as the third toughest in the country. The Gators played 11 nationally ranked teams, while finishing the regular season tied for fourth place in the mighty Southeastern Conference race, earning the No. 4 seed in the SEC Tournament after being picked during the preseason by the SEC media to finish eighth in the conference standings.

The 2003-04 Gators earned a bid into the NCAA Championship, receiving the No. 5 seed in the Midwest Region. The team eliminated New Mexico in front of 16,029 rabid Lobo fans in the first round, before falling to 15th-ranked and fourth-seeded Baylor in the next game.

Peck's 2003-04 Gator squad, which featured just one scholarship senior, posted six upset victories against nationally ranked teams, the second most in school history. Prior to the team's 83-73 upset over No. 11/9 Georgia on January 18, the last time an unranked UF team defeated a nationally ranked opponent on the road was back on Jan. 16, 1994, when UF stunned No. 10 Alabama 80-75.

The 2002-03 season marked the first time in 13 years the Gators took the court under a new head coach. Carolyn Peck was introduced on April 3, 2002, as the eighth women's basketball head coach in Florida history.

Peck inherited a squad that featured just one player - junior center Vanessa Hayden - who boasted more than one year of Division I basketball experience. Unfortunately for the Gators and Hayden, she fractured her left fibula during the December 7 game at N.C. State and missed 10 crucial games as a result. Her absence, combined with the addition of five true freshmen - the most since the 1994-95 season - resulted in some tough times on the court.

The youngest Gators had no time to adjust to college life or the rigors of SEC play. The returners, as young as they were, had to learn a new system and philosophy under a new coaching staff.

Everyone, from the players to the coaches, were literally thrown into battle and forced to 'learn on the job.' Florida's schedule consistently ranked among the top 15 toughest in the country

throughout the season. After a rough start to open the SEC slate, the Gators settled down, regained their confidence and showed great improvement with each game. Despite the team's struggles on the court, Peck remained the eternal optimist and the Gators followed her positive leadership.

Prior to taking the helm of the Florida program, the last time Carolyn Peck graced the college basketball hardwood, she walked off the court with a huge smile on her face and a piece of the 1999 NCAA championship net grasped firmly in her hand. She accomplished her goal of winning an NCAA title. Four days later, Peck realized another lifelong goal - coaching professional basketball - as she assumed the reigns of the budding WNBA Orlando Miracle franchise.

On Wednesday, April 3, 2002, Peck stood before a packed room in the Women's Club on the University of Florida campus and enthusiastically announced her return to the college game. Peck, who actively served as Head Coach and General Manager of the Miracle since April 1, 1999, charmed the media and athletics personnel in attendance that afternoon in Gainesville as she talked about becoming the eighth women's basketball head coach in Gator history.

"Never in my wildest dream did I ever think that the opportunity that has presented itself at Florida would happen to me, or at least happen to me so soon. I am extremely excited," said Peck, who is one of the most visible and popular personalities in the women's game. "There is no other school in the country that has the support, the facilities, the total package like the University of Florida. I feel extremely lucky because Jeremy Foley is one of the most unique athletic directors in the country. Working for him and Ann Marie Rogers is a privilege. I'm extremely thankful for the opportunity to come and work with them."

"Carolyn Peck was the first person who came to mind when we began looking for the next women's basketball head coach at the University of Florida," Foley said. "Carolyn's coaching and basketball pedigree is second to none, having worked with some of the most highly respected coaches in the game. I have had the opportunity to interact with her for the last couple of years and she is an extremely enjoyable person to be around on and off the basketball court. It's a bonus that she also comes with a national championship ring already on her finger."

Peck actually was named Head Coach and General Manager of the Miracle on July 6, 1998, the summer before she guided Purdue University to the 1999 NCAA championship with a 62-45 win over Duke on March 28. Four days later she officially assumed the reigns of the inaugural WNBA franchise and led the Miracle to a 44-52 record in three seasons, including a trip to the 2000 playoffs. During the off-season in Orlando, Peck worked as the color analyst for Sunshine Network on multiple UF women's televised games. She served in a similar capacity for ESPN's coverage of the 2002 NCAA Championship.

It was during her second year as head coach of the Boilermakers when Peck orchestrated Purdue's national title run, as the team compiled a 34-1 record and she was recognized as the Associated Press and the WBCA Division I National Coach of the Year. In her first season as a head coach, Peck helped Purdue to a 23-10 mark and a trip to the 1998 NCAA "Elite Eight," where the team lost 72-65 to Louisiana Tech. The team won a pair of Big Ten Tournament titles

# University of Florida Women's Basketball

with Peck at the reigns, while the 1999 squad became only the second team in the 17-year history of the Big Ten to skate through the regular-season conference slate undefeated (16-0). Her peers and the league's media recognized Peck's accomplishments, as both groups named her the Big Ten Coach of the Year following the perfect run in 1999.

Peck was an assistant coach at Purdue for one year under Nell Fortner prior to being promoted the following season after Fortner departed to become the head coach of the USA National Team, which went on to win the gold medal at the 2000 Olympic Games. During the 1997 season when she was an assistant alongside former Gator Kerry Cremeans, Purdue compiled a 17-11 ledger, won the Big Ten title and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament. The Boilermakers posted a 74-22 record in three years with Peck, including a 57-11 mark in her two seasons as head coach.

Also during her two years at the helm of the Purdue program, eight different players combined for 11 Academic All-Big Ten honors and one player - Stephanie White-McCarty - was the GTE Academic All-American of the Year.

Prior to her stay in West Lafayette, Ind., Peck spent the 1996 season as an assistant coach at the University of Kentucky, after serving as an assistant coach at the University of Tennessee in 1994 and 1995. The Lady Vols logged a 65-5 record while Peck was under the tutelage of Pat Summitt, and helped the team capture a pair of Southeastern Conference titles and reach the national championship game in 1995.

Those three years weren't the only experience Peck had in the SEC. Peck played her college ball at Vanderbilt from 1985-88. During her four-year career, the 6-foot-4 center averaged 10.6 points and 5.8 rebounds. She totaled 1,240 points, 679 rebounds and 180 blocks helping the Commodores to a 77-42 record and appearances in the 1986 and 1987 NCAA Tournament. Peck, who played all four years under head coach Phil Lee, was named team captain in her final two years and she earned Second Team All-SEC honors her final season. Peck earned her B.A. degree in communications in 1988, after which she was a marketing consultant for a television station in Nashville. She spent the next two years in pharmaceutical sales with a Fortune 500 company.

Peck then returned to the hardwood, playing professionally in Japan from 1991-93 with the Nippondenso Corporation. She was the league's leading rebounder her final two years and helped her team win the league championship her last season.

A native of Jefferson City, Tenn., Peck was a two-time prep All-American at Jefferson County High School and was named Tennessee's Miss Basketball in 1987. She has one older brother, Steve, and one younger brother, Michael, who was an assistant coach with the Gator women's team in 1998. Carolyn later hired Michael to be an assistant under her with the Orlando Miracle in 2000 and 2001, and at UF in 2003.

## Carolyn Peck vs. All Opponents

	Overall	at UF
<b>Alabama</b> .....	<b>1-3</b>	<b>1-3</b>
<b>Akron</b> .....	<b>1-0</b>	<b>1-0</b>
<b>Arkansas</b> .....	<b>2-2</b>	<b>2-2</b>
Arizona .....	2-0	
<b>Auburn</b> .....	<b>1-1</b>	<b>1-1</b>
Ball State .....	1-0	
<b>Baylor</b> .....	<b>0-3</b>	<b>0-3</b>
Bethune-Cookman .....	1-0	1-0
<b>Boston</b> .....	<b>2-0</b>	<b>2-0</b>
<b>Central Florida</b> .....	<b>3-0</b>	<b>3-0</b>
<b>Charlotte</b> .....	<b>1-0</b>	<b>1-0</b>
Colorado State .....	1-0	
<b>Delaware State</b> .....	<b>1-0</b>	<b>1-0</b>
Duke .....	1-0	
Fla. Internat'l .....	0-1	
Florida .....	2-0	
<b>Florida State</b> .....	<b>2-1</b>	<b>2-1</b>
Furman .....	1-0	
George Washington .....	1-1	1-1
<b>Georgia</b> .....	<b>2-5</b>	<b>2-5</b>
Houston .....	0-1	0-1
Illinois .....	3-1	
Indiana .....	3-1	
Indiana State .....	1-0	
<b>Iowa</b> .....	<b>3-2</b>	<b>0-1</b>
Kansas .....	1-0	
<b>Kentucky</b> .....	<b>2-1</b>	<b>2-1</b>
Lamar .....	1-0	1-0
LaSalle .....	1-0	1-0
Long Beach State .....	1-0	1-0
<b>Louisiana State</b> .....	<b>0-5</b>	<b>0-5</b>
Louisiana Tech .....	2-1	
Massachusetts .....	1-0	1-0
Miami .....	1-1	1-1
Michigan .....	1-2	
Michigan State .....	4-0	
Minnesota .....	3-0	
<b>Mississippi</b> .....	<b>1-3</b>	<b>1-3</b>
<b>Mississippi State</b> .....	<b>1-2</b>	<b>1-2</b>
New Mexico .....	1-0	1-0
North Carolina .....	1-0	
North Carolina State .....	0-1	0-1
Northern Illinois .....	2-0	
Northwestern .....	5-0	
Notre Dame .....	1-1	
Oakland .....	1-0	1-0
Ohio .....	2-0	
Ohio State .....	4-0	
Old Dominion .....	0-1	
Oral Roberts .....	1-0	
<b>Oregon State</b> .....	<b>1-1</b>	<b>1-1</b>
Penn State .....	4-0	
Providence .....	1-0	
<b>Richmond</b> .....	<b>0-2</b>	<b>0-2</b>
Rutgers .....	1-0	
Santa Barbara .....	1-1	1-1
<b>South Carolina</b> .....	<b>2-1</b>	<b>2-1</b>
<b>South Florida</b> .....	<b>3-1</b>	<b>3-1</b>
Stanford .....	1-1	
<b>Stetson</b> .....	<b>1-0</b>	<b>1-0</b>
<b>Temple</b> .....	<b>2-0</b>	<b>2-0</b>
<b>Tennessee</b> .....	<b>1-4</b>	<b>0-4</b>
Valpariso .....	1-0	
<b>Vanderbilt</b> .....	<b>2-4</b>	<b>2-4</b>
Virginia .....	1-0	1-0
Washington .....	1-0	
Wisconsin .....	2-1	
<b>Totals</b> .....	<b>99-56</b>	<b>42-45</b>

**BOLDFACE** indicates 2004-05 opponent

**Head Coach Carolyn Peck**  
**1999 Associated Press National Coach of the Year**  
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**Carolyn's College Coaching 'Peck'-ing Order**

<u>Season</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Overall W-L</u>	<u>Conference</u>	<u>Postseason</u>
1994	Tennessee	Assistant Coach	31-2	11-0 (1 <sup>st</sup> )	NCAA Sweet 16
1995	Tennessee	Assistant Coach	34-4	11-0 (1 <sup>st</sup> )	NCAA Runner-up
1996	Kentucky	Assistant Coach	8-19	2-9 (12 <sup>th</sup> )	—
1997	Purdue	Assistant Coach	17-11	12-4 (t-1 <sup>st</sup> )	NCAA 2nd Round
1998	Purdue	Head Coach	23-10	10-6 (t-3 <sup>rd</sup> )	NCAA Elite Eight
1999	Purdue	Head Coach	34-1	16-0 (1 <sup>st</sup> )	NCAA Champions
2003	Florida	Head Coach	9-19	1-13 (t-11 <sup>th</sup> )	—
2004	Florida	Head Coach	19-11	8-6 (t-4th)	NCAA 2nd Round
2005	Florida	Head Coach	14-15	5-9(8th)	WNIT First Round
<b>Overall Record at Florida (three years):</b>			42-45		
<b>Overall Record as College Head Coach (five years):</b>			99-56		
<b>Overall Record as a Collegiate Assistant &amp; Head Coach:</b>			189-91		

**Carolyn Peck at a Glance**

**Full Name:** Carolyn Arlene Peck  
**Hometown:** Jefferson City, Tenn.  
**Date of Birth:** January 22, 1966  
**Height:** 6-foot-4 (without heels!)  
**Education:** Vanderbilt (B.A. in Communications, 1988); Jefferson County High School (1985)  
**Playing Background:** Vanderbilt (1985-88); Japanese Professional League (1991-93)

**Collegiate Coaching Highlights :**

- \*Named 1999 Associated Press National Coach of the Year
- \*Named 1999 WBCA National Coach of the Year
- \*Voted 1999 Big Ten Coach of the Year (coaches & media)
- \*Coached Purdue to 1999 National Championship
- \*Coached PU to the 1998 & 1999 Big Ten Tournament Championships
- \*Guided PU to the 1999 Big Ten Regular Season title
- \*Assistant Coach for the 2004 U.S. Junior World Championships Qualifying Team
- \*Assistant Coach for the 1997 U.S. Jones Cup Team (silver medallist)

**Carolyn Peck in the Postseason**

Overall Record: 10-3

**1998 NCAA (Purdue: No. 4 Seed in Midwest)**

<u>Round</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Result</u>
First Round	Washington	H	W 88-71
Second Round	Colorado State	H	W 77-63
Sweet 16	Notre Dame	N1	W 70-65
Elite Eight	Louisiana Tech	N1	L 72-65

**1999 NCAA (Purdue: No. 1 Seed in Midwest)**

First Round	Oral Roberts	H	W 68-48
Second Round	Kansas	H	W 55-41
Sweet 16	North Carolina	N2	W 82-59
Elite Eight	Rutgers	N2	W 75-62
Semifinal	Louisiana Tech	N3	W 77-63
Final	Duke	N3	W 62-45

**2004 NCAA(Florida: No. 5 Seed in Midwest)**

First Round	New Mexico	A	W 68-56
Second Round	Baylor	N4	L 68-56

**2005 WNIT (Florida)**

First Round	South Florida	A	L 61-56
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Neutral Sites: N1=Lubbock, Texas; N2=Normal, Ill.; N3=San Jose, Calif.; N4=Albuquerque, N.M.

**Carolyn Peck ...**

- ... is one of just nine active collegiate head coaches who has won an NCAA title.
- ... was an assistant coach with the gold medal winning 2004 U.S. Junior World Championships Qualifying Team.
- ... took piano and dance lessons during her youth.
- ... was a member of Vanderbilt's first-ever NCAA Championship team.
- ... has 10 years of experience with SEC basketball as a player and assistant coach, including three years at UF.
- ... is one of three SEC women's head coaches who also played four years at a league school.

**Charlene Thomas-Swinson**  
**Assistant Coach (Three Years)**

**Charlene Thomas-Swinson** has been an assistant coach under Carolyn Peck since the WNBA's Orlando Miracle's inception in 1999 so it came as no surprise when she made the decision to follow Peck to Gainesville. Thomas-Swinson, who in 2004-05 completed her third year on the UF sideline, officially was named to the Gator staff on April 10, 2002. Her on-court duties for the 2004-05 season included the development of the post players, in addition to coordinating the team's playing schedule among various other duties.

"One of Charlene's greatest strengths as a coach comes during a game. She is excellent at making adjustments and seeing the whole picture," Peck said. "We are extremely fortunate to have someone with her previous experiences as a former head coach on staff. Charlene has such a tremendous passion for the game and knowledge of the sport."

Prior to her three-year stay in Orlando, Thomas-Swinson was the head coach at St. John's University for three years, 1996-99. Among others she recruited to the Red Storm were Aiysha Smith, who opted for LSU once Thomas-Swinson departed, and Trish Patterson, who also changed her decision and played her senior year at UF with Thomas-Swinson on the sidelines.

From 1993-96, Thomas-Swinson served as an assistant coach at her alma mater Auburn University. During her four years on the Tiger coaching staff, the squad reached the NCAA Tournament three times, including the 1996 run to the Elite Eight.

Thomas-Swinson served as an assistant coach at Columbia Union College from 1989-91 before returning to Auburn, where she was a three-year starter for Joe Ciampi's Auburn squad and helped the Tigers capture their first-ever SEC regular season championship her senior year in 1987. Auburn also captured the 1987 SEC Tournament title and advanced to the NCAA Elite 8, after reaching the NCAA Sweet 16 her junior season.

Entering the 2004-05 season, Thomas-Swinson still appeared in the Auburn career record book, ranking seventh all-time for rebounding (761), seventh for steals (170) and sixth for field goal percentage (53.0%).

Interestingly, Thomas-Swinson played all four years at Auburn where former Florida head coach Carol Ross was an assistant during that time. Thomas-Swinson later joined Ross as a member of her 1998 USA Women's Select Team staff.

She earned her B.S. degree in business management from Auburn in 1992 and joined the coaching staff soon afterward.

She is a native of Takoma Park, Md., and married Aaron Swinson on May 3, 1997. The couple has one child, Charles, who was born on November 5, 2000.

**Charlene Thomas-Swinson at a Glance**

**Date of Birth:** December 11, 1965

**Hometown:** Takoma Park, Md.

**Education:** Auburn (B.S. in Business Management, 1992)

**Playing Background:** four-year basketball letterwinner at Auburn, 1983-87

**Height:** 6-foot-1

**Of Interest:**

\*An assistant coach for three years with the WNBA's Orlando Miracle, 1999-01

\*Played college ball at Auburn from 1983-87, when former UF head coach Carol Ross was an assistant coach during her entire four-year career

\*Head Coach at St. John's University for three years, 1996-99

\*Four-year assistant coach at Auburn, where the Tigers reached the NCAA Elite Eight in 1996

\*Her husband Aaron is a professional basketball player in Europe

**Michael Peck**  
**Assistant Coach (Four Years)**

**Michael Peck**, younger brother of head coach Carolyn Peck, in 2004-05 completed his fourth year in Gainesville working with the University of Florida women's basketball team. However, it was his third consecutive season on the Gator sidelines, having returned to UF in April 2002 after gathering additional coaching experience.

Peck's on-court duties for the 2004-05 season included the development of the point guards, in addition to various other responsibilities.

He began his collegiate coaching career as an assistant coach at Florida during the 1998 campaign under then-Head Coach Carol Ross before assuming a similar position at Penn State for the next three seasons, including the team's run to the 2000 Final Four.

Michael, who was one of the primary recruiters for the Lady Lions, helped orchestrate one of the nation's top recruiting classes which brought two-time Kodak All-American Kelly Mazzante to Penn State.

Following the 2001 season, Michael joined Carolyn's WNBA Orlando Miracle staff and served as an assistant coach until his return to Gainesville.

During his four years as a collegiate assistant coach prior to returning to Gainesville in April 2002, Florida and Penn State combined for a 94-32 overall record, including a 23-9 mark during the Gators' run to the NCAA Sweet 16.

Florida was Michael's first collegiate position after coaching the Michigan Spartans, a 15-17 year old Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) team, while working as an account executive for the *Fortune* 200 firm Pitney Bowes, Inc.

Peck also volunteered for the Detroit Pistons' Jerome Williams inner-city mentoring program. He has served as an individual instructor at the University of Tennessee's, Vanderbilt University's and the University of Virginia's women's basketball camps.

A 1996 graduate and four-year letter winner at Marshall University, Michael played his final year under current Gator men's basketball coach Billy Donovan. He still stands among the leaders on Marshall's all-time block list.

Michael married the former Rachel Marzouca on July 31, 1999. The couple has one girl, Carly, who was born on May 11, 2001. Michael and Rachel met in Gainesville while Michael was an assistant coach at UF and Rachel was a student at the university.

**Michael Peck at a Glance**

**Date of Birth:** August 1, 1972

**Hometown:** Jefferson City, Tenn.

**Education:** Marshall (B.S. in journalism, 1996)

**Playing Background:** basketball letterwinner at Marshall, 1991-95

**Height:** 6-foot-7

**Of Interest:**

\*An assistant coach with Penn State during its 2000 Final Four season

\*Brought a top 10-ranked recruiting class to Penn State

\*Coached at Penn State when current UF assistant coach Jose Mori was a practice player with the team and Mori's future wife, Christine, was a member of the team

\*Played college ball at Marshall under current Gator men's coach Billy Donovan

\*Florida head coach Carolyn Peck is his older sister

\*Served as an assistant coach at Florida during the 1998 season

\*Met his future wife Rachel in Gainesville while he was assistant coach at UF

## **Jose Mori** **Assistant Coach (One Year)**

**Jose Mori** (pronounced MORE-ee) joined the Florida women's basketball staff in May of 2004 and the energy level inside the Basketball Complex has been at another level ever since. Mori's on-court duties for the 2004-05 season included the development of the wing players.

"Jose has been around basketball most of his life," UF head coach Carolyn Peck said. "He has a passion for the game which is infectious. Jose is a basketball junkie and a tireless recruiter. He has had to roll up his sleeves and really help (Hofstra head coach) Felisha Legette-Jack jump-start the Hofstra program and they've done a great job."

Mori spent the previous two seasons as an assistant coach at Hofstra, located in Hempstead, N.Y., before being promoted to assistant head coach on April 23, 2004 by Pride head coach Felisha Legette-Jack, the 2004 Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) Coach of the Year. He was the top assistant on staff during the 2003-04 season, when the team compiled a 14-14 overall record, the first non-losing season since the 1993-94 campaign. The team's 14 wins were the most since the 1993-94 season, when the squad went 14-13.

He began his collegiate coaching career in August 2000, when he was an assistant coach at the University of Richmond. During his two years with the Spiders, he was involved with recruiting and oversaw the development of the guards and forwards. Richmond finished second in the Atlantic 10 West Division during the 2002 season after being picked to finish seventh in preseason polls.

Before his stint at Richmond, Mori was the head girls basketball coach at Bald Eagle Area High School in Wingate, Pa., from August 1998 to May 2000. While there, he oversaw and coordinated all aspects of the seventh through ninth grade, junior varsity and varsity teams. The varsity team made its first playoff appearance in eight seasons under his direction. Mori has also coached at various levels of the Nittany Valley AAU program. As head coach of the 14 and under (1997), 15 and under (1998) and 16 and under (1999), Mori compiled an overall record of 45-11.

A 2000 graduate of Penn State University with a degree in kinesiology, Mori worked as a scout team player for the women's basketball team under the direction of legendary women's basketball coach Rene Portland. Current UF assistant coach Michael Peck was an assistant with the Lady Lions for three years while Mori was helping prepare the team. He is married to the former Christine Portland, who was a four-year basketball letterwinner at Penn State.

### **Jose Mori at a Glance**

**Date of Birth:** June 9, 1976

**Hometown:** State College, Pa.

**Education:** Penn State (B.S., kinesiology, 2000)

**Height:** 6-foot-3

**Playing Background:** basketball letterwinner at State College High School (1992-94)

#### **Coaching Background:**

\*Assistant Head Coach/Assistant Coach, Hofstra University (2002-04)

\*Assistant Coach, University of Richmond (2000-02)

\*Head Coach, Bald Eagle High School (1998-2000)

#### **Of Interest:**

\*Was a member of Penn State's scout team when he was an undergraduate

\*Helped the Lady Lion Basketball team while current UF assistant coach Michael Peck was an assistant coach with the team

\*Married to the former Christine Portland, the daughter of PSU head coach Rene Portland

\*Born in Lima, Peru