

Unraveling the ancient secrets of our caves ^[1]

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Under the leadership of Professor Ángel Acosta Colón, students from the UPR at Arecibo collaborate with diverse research on caves in Puerto Rico.

Arecibo - Under the leadership of Professor Ángel Acosta Colón, more than 100 students who have participated in his research course at the Physics-Chemistry Department of the University of Puerto Rico at Arecibo (UPRA) have immersed themselves in the past few years in projects ranging from mapping to the search for fossils, but above all they have dedicated themselves to understanding a mysterious world: the country's caves.

Using advanced technology to draw detailed maps of these subway labyrinths, the students create the cartography that not only guides their explorations, but also opens the door to a series of experiments that reveal secrets hidden underground.

"When we're characterizing caves, the part of (mapping) or the dimensions of the cave is pretty quick. But a quality monitoring, whether it's air, soil or water, we have to do it at different times, in different seasons to find different types of contaminants. So, depending on the study we want to do, (it could take) months or years," Acosta Colón explained.

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