

# A survey of knot invariants

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A knot invariant is simply a function that assigns to each knot in 3- space a value, usually numeric or algebraic. Basic examples include the crossing number and the Jones polynomial. Recent years have seen the introduction of many new invariants that are offering us deep insights into the nature of knotting. In this talk I will survey knot invariants of current research interest, describe surprising connections between these invariants, and mention some of their relationships to other areas of geometric topology. I will also present some of the long standing, easily stated, problems in knot theory that remain open.

**Friday, November 21th, 2008**

**2:40PM**

**Room: MG 120**

**Refreshments in MG 226 at 2:20pm**