Abstract: I will survey the ways in which algebraic topology (and homotopy theory in particular) has in recent years been used for extracting information about the structure of spaces of knots and links. The focus will be on manifold calculus of functors, but related topics such as the cosimplicial and operad models for knots and links will also be mentioned along the way. I will end with brief account of some recent results about spaces of homotopy string links, Milnor invariants, and asymptotic invariants of vector fields.

See http://math.bu.edu/research/geom/seminar.html or contact Ryan Grady regrady@math.bu.edu for more information.