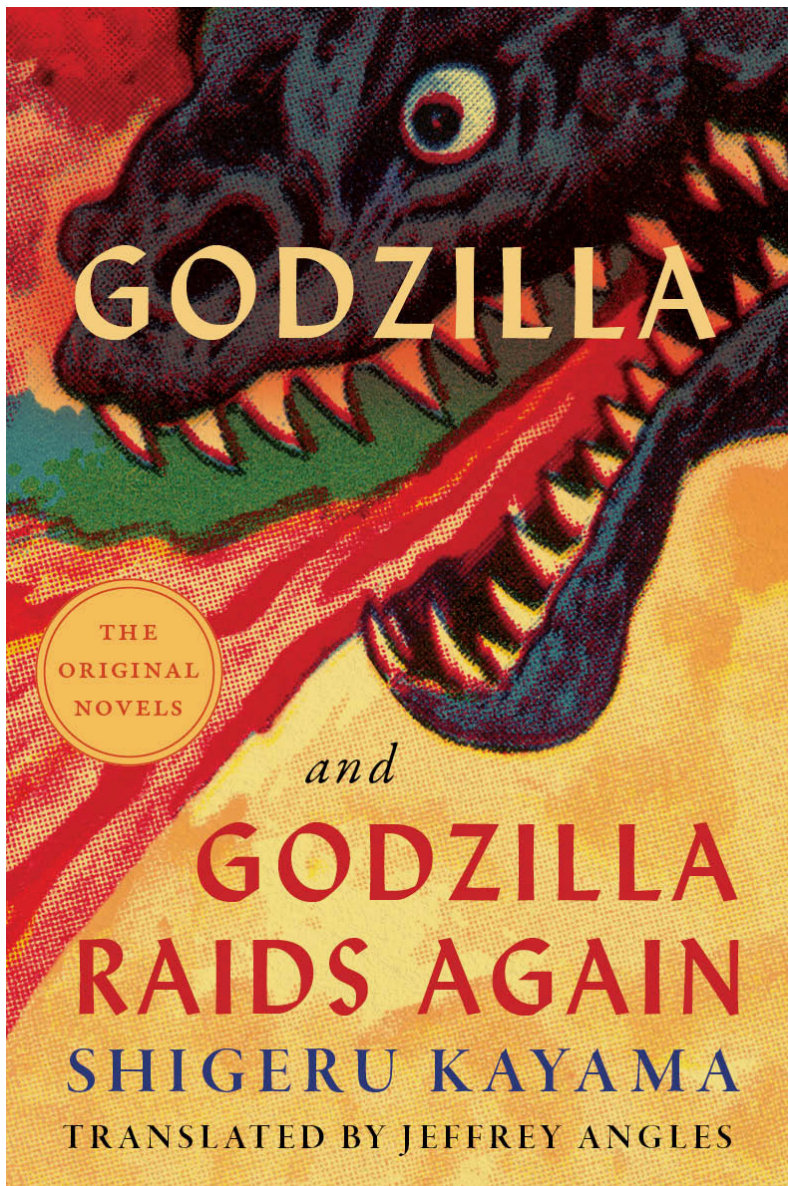




World Languages and Literatures
Faculty Colloquium Series 2023-2024

**Godzilla as Anti-nuclear Activist
and Anthropocene Guerilla**



Jeffrey Angles

WMU Professor of Japanese

Dec. 1, 2023, Friday

12:30-1:30 pm

1021 Brown Hall

The 1954 film *Godzilla* introduced the world to one of the most iconic monsters of all time: a gigantic, radioactive kaiju that trampled across Tokyo, leaving mass destruction in his wake. Although the history of the film is the stuff of legend, few people in the West know that the Godzilla story was written by one of Japan's most famous mid-century science-fiction novelists, Shigeru Kayama, who conceived of the monster as a way of protesting the Cold War nuclear proliferation and environmental destruction. Dr. Angles, who has recently published a bestselling translation of Kayama's Godzilla novels, will talk about the monster's history and what messages the story has for us in the Anthropocene.

Questions? Dr. Jeffrey Angles (jeffrey.angles@wmich.edu)