

1014-Z1-1258 **Shumei C. Richman*** (richmans@midlandstech.edu), 220 North Woodlake Dr., Columbia, SC 29229. *Teaching to Help Students Avoid the Misuse of the distributive Law in Algebra Class*. Preliminary report.

The distributive law is one of the most commonly used rules in Algebra. It is also one of the most misused rules in the Algebra class. Students use it everywhere, without knowing when to and when not to use it. In this presentation, we will show the common mistakes students make in using the distributive law, analyze the mistakes, and present teaching strategies to help students avoid these mistakes (Received September 27, 2005)