

Contents

| <i>Acknowledgments</i> | <i>page</i> |
|---|-------------|
| Introduction | i |
| 1 Early Humanist Critics of Scholastic Language: Francesco Petrarch and Leonardo Bruni | 20 |
| 2 From a Linguistic Point of View: Lorenzo Valla's Critique of Aristotelian-Scholastic Philosophy | 44 |
| 3 Giovanni Pontano on Language, Meaning, and Grammar | 71 |
| 4 Juan Luis Vives on Language, Knowledge, and the Topics | 95 |
| 5 Anti-Essentialism and the Rhetoricization of Knowledge: Mario Nizolio's Humanist Attack on Universals | 127 |
| 6 Skepticism and the Critique of Language in Francisco Sanches | 154 |
| 7 Thomas Hobbes and the Rhetoric of Common Language | 180 |
| 8 Between Private Signification and Common Use: Locke on Ideas, Words, and the Social Dimension of Language | 215 |
| Conclusion | 245 |
| <i>Bibliography</i> | 252 |
| <i>Index</i> | 271 |