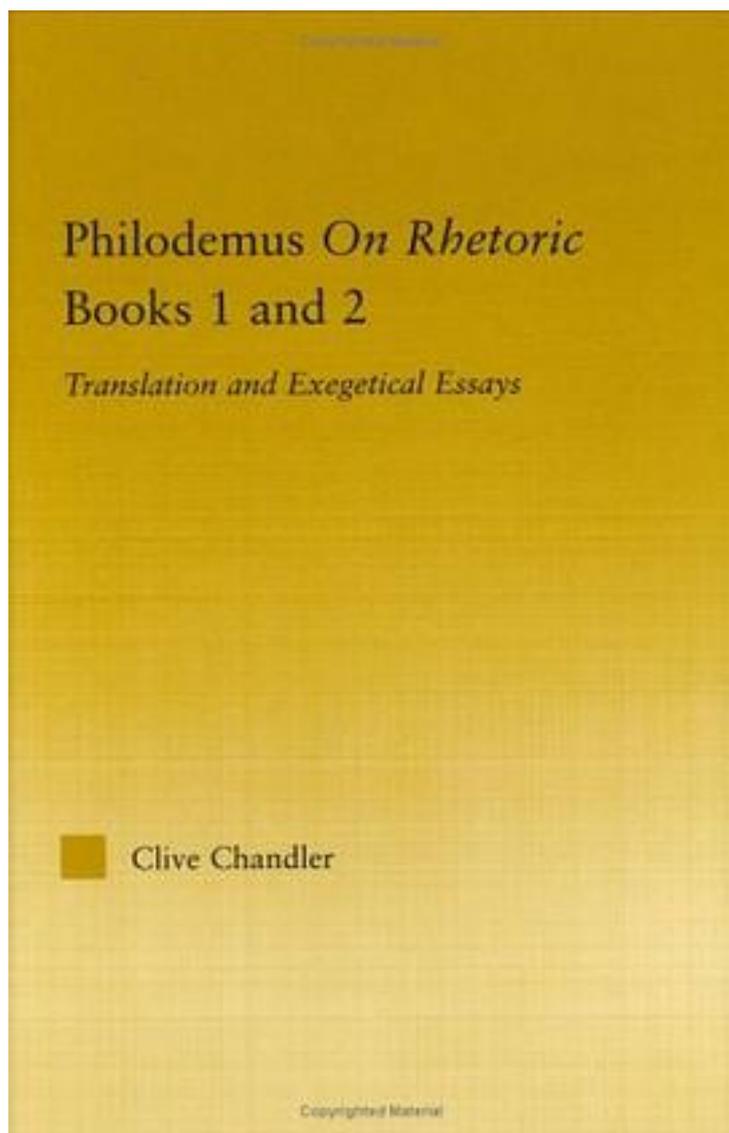


Philodemus on Rhetoric Books 1 and 2



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The Epicureans were notorious in antiquity for denigrating most forms of civic participation, and for rejecting those cultural activities (such as poetry, music and rhetoric) which are broadly labeled "paideia". In this, as in all else, they ostensibly took their cue from Epicurus and the other founders of the School. In contrast to this, the Epicurean Philodemus, who lived and wrote in Italy in the first century B.C., presents an interesting case, for a substantial portion of his surviving work is preoccupied with investigations into this "paideia" and with demonstrating how an orthodox Epicurean is to approach them. This book selects one of those investigations, the first two books of Philodemus' "On Rhetoric". An annotated translation is provided of the most recent edition of this text which is followed by a series of essays which help to clarify Philodemus' conception of, and approach to, the problem of rhetoric for Epicureans, and in particular the way he manages citations from the works of the founders to support his arguments against other Epicureans who take a different view.

作者介绍:

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