Some reference books for research on Renaissance humanism and the study of Early Modern intellectual culture
(with particular reference to France)

1. General reference works, collections, histories and “readers”
These can often serve as a first port of call. Their usefulness will depend on their scope and intended readership, and your particular set of questions.

See for instance:
*And many more…*

2. Subject-specific inventories, dictionaries and bibliographies

*Humanism, scholarship, intellectual culture*
  - alphabetical names of humanists with ancient authors/texts transmitted and bibliographical references. Tables.
  - Useful for less known figures, or to evaluate scholarly contexts.
The field of *Neo-Latin Studies* is for a large part concerned with humanism and the discovery and influence of Ancient texts. Neo-Latin authors often also wrote in the vernacular (e.g. Joachim Du Bellay), or may have influenced vernacular literature greatly (e.g. Julius Caesar Scaliger, Janus Secundus). Bibliographical information can be found in:

  - Contains a survey of the main general reference works, bibliographical pointers on the transmission of Ancient authors, and on each country.

- The annual “Instrumentum Bibliographicum” in *Humanistica Lovaniensia*.

- *The Year’s Work in Modern Languages* (contributions on Neo-Latin literature have been irregular).

**French literature (general)**

- *Bibliographie der französischen Literaturwissenschaft*. Edited by Otto Klapp (Frankfurt am Main : Klostermann) [not at Warwick]:
  - Year on year bibliography of all French studies subject
  - Classified by period and theme/author, indexes (French authors and critics)

- The *Year's Work in Modern Languages*

**French literature (15th, 16th and 17th centuries)**

  - Updated version of the 1951 – with short bibl. of criticism.

- A. Cioranescu, *Bibliographie de la littérature française du seizième siècle* (Paris, 1959), and:
  - Lists writings of French (and bilingual French-Latin) authors of 16C resp. 17C, with bibl. of critical works.
  - Old, but has still much to offer, especially on less-known figures or authors (e.g. pamphleteers) and to track down older criticism.

  - Divided into large themes, and then according to individual authors.
  - Provides critical comments – especially useful to gauge the value of older criticism.
  - Needs to be supplemented with other resources to bring it up to date.
Bibliographical reference works


  - Similar catalogues exist for: the Netherlands and Belgium/Dutch and Flemish; German-Speaking Countries/German; Italy/Italian; Spanish, Spanish-American and Portuguese

  - A standard reference work, often simply referred to as “Adams”.


