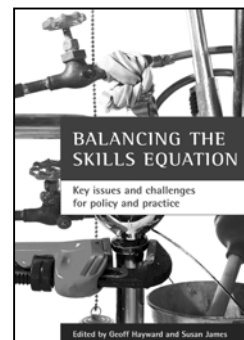


# Balancing the skills equation

Key issues and challenges for policy and practice

**Geoff Hayward** and **Susan James**, Department of Educational Studies, University of Oxford



Governments worldwide assume that national competitiveness can be improved by developing workforce skills. This book critically examines this 'high skills' vision at both policy and practice levels and challenges an oversimplified policy rhetoric that underestimates the complexity of the processes involved in developing a skilled workforce. It focuses on key issues relating to the high skills agenda: skills and political economy; different investment strategies for producing skills; qualification systems and learning. A multidisciplinary team of authors from a range of disciplines, including economics, management and education, provides the crosscutting international and comparative analysis.

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