The prime and common goal of HttpHandler and HttpModule is to inject pre-processing logic before the ASP.NET request reaches the IIS server.

HttpHandler is an extension-based processor in other words pre-processing logic is executed depending on file extensions. For instance, sometimes you would like to check that a person should be above age of 18 if he is trying to view any  files with extension \*.MP4.

HttpModule is an event-based processor. ASP.NET engine emits out lot of events as the request traverses over the request pipeline. Just to name some events begin request, authorize request, authenticate request etc. By using HttpModule you can write logic in these events. These logics get executed  as the events fire and before the request reaches the IIS server.