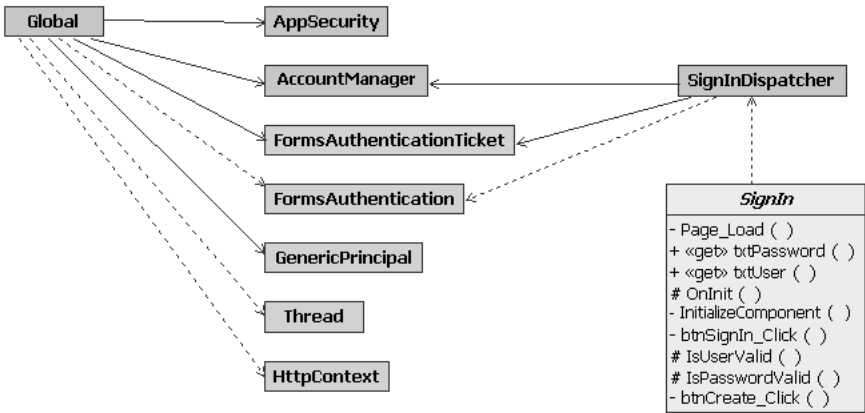


Figure 6-28: Role-based security handling: Participants.

The Global.asax file contains operations to handle events global to the Web application. These operations are called by the .NET infrastructure. Here we consider the Application_Authenticate Request event, which is triggered on every page request.



When signing in, two things need to happen: 1) Set session variables to hold the UserID so that the User Request Handling mechanism can operate. 2) Set a session authentication ticket so that the Role-Based Security Handling mechanism can operate.

The mechanism operates by: 1) setting a session authentication ticket with the UserID, so that when the Application_Authenticate event is called, it is possible to retrieve it from the session call context, and thus reference the corresponding user account.
2) Saving the groups that the user participates in the role cookie, so that it is also possible to access them when the Application_Authenticate event is called.
3) Creating a new GenericPrincipal with the roles in the cookie and assign the principal to the current thread and context.
4) The .NET infrastructure is responsible for verifying that for each operation called, the current thread principal contains a role listed in the ones that are authorized for that operation.