



Chief Whitman enlisted in the U.S. Navy in January 2003. Following recruit training at Naval Station Great Lakes, Ill., he attended Photographer's Mate "A" School at the Defense Information School on Fort Meade, Md. In July 2003, Airman Whitman was assigned to his first duty station aboard the amphibious command ship USS Blue Ridge (LCC 19) in Yokosuka, Japan, earning his enlisted surface warfare specialist qualification aboard.

In 2006, he transferred to the Naval Media Center at the Anacostia Naval Annex in Washington, D.C. Serving as videographer and leading petty officer of the production support camera shop, he covered assignments worldwide from the commissioning of USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77), to Marine special operations training in the Philippines. Transferring to Navy Public Affairs Support Element, West in San Diego, Calif., in 2011, he has since participated in CARAT Bangladesh, USS Carl Vinson's 2011-2012 WESTPAC and Pacific Partnership 2013. Chief Whitman is a graduate of the Intermediate Photojournalism, Video Production Documentation and Advanced Electronic Journalism courses at the Defense Information School.

His personal awards include the Joint Service Achievement Medal and Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals (3 awards).